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THE LATEST PHASE OF THE PURCHASE QUESTION.

WHAT pity 'tis that the bowels of this island of Great Britain are not as rich in gold ore as they are in coal and iron, and that no process has yet been discovered whereby said coal and iron could be commuted, bulk for bulk, into the more precious material! If such were the case, and the entire produce of the converted mines flowed directly into the public exchequer, "what deeds we should do and what sights we should see"—in the way of expenditure! Indeed, some people seem to fancy that we have already attained to the blissful condition above desiderated, and that the Chancellor of the Exchequer has but to wave a magic wand or stamp his foot in order to have at his disposal as much gold as he, or others for him, may desire, so free and liberal are they in their demands upon the national wealth. From

purchasing rare and precious, and therefore costly, fine-art collections to buying back the national army, these gentlemen appear to look upon sums varying from two or three hundred thousand pounds to five or six millions as scarcely worthy of a thought—when the nation has to pay! And, so generous are they with other people's means, that if Mr. Lowe were in possession of a Fortunatus cap, an Aladdin's lamp, or had at his command the produce of all the gold-mines of the world—California, Australia, and the Ural Mountains, for example—with those of the diamond-diggings of the Cape, the pearl-fisheries of Ceylon, and a few other similar trifles to boot, they would bankrupt him in a twelvemonth.

It never seems to occur to those who are so ready to make demands upon the public purse that expenditure means taxation, and that taxation means more or less of pinching

and privation in every household in the land, and especially in those households where pinching and privation are ever too familiar, and which benefit least, if at all, from national disbursements. We wish some people would bear in mind that the imperial taxation of this kingdom alone amounts to not much short of £2 10s. a year (or, say, one shilling per week) to every man, woman, and child. As, however, the local taxation of one sort and another amounts, we believe, to something between twenty and thirty millions more, we may say that, in round numbers, the 30,000,000 persons in England, Ireland, and Scotland pay annually in taxes £100,000,000 sterling: more than three guineas each a year, or close upon fifteenpence per week. But this, enormous as it is, does not show the full weight of the burden, for it must be remembered that about two-thirds of the whole population are non-producers; and that, consequently, the share of the real



THE OPENING OF THE INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION BY THE PRINCE OF WALES.



wealth-winners—say 10,000,000—must be multiplied by three, which gives nine guineas a year, or no less than three shillings and sixpence per week, as the contribution of each worker! Of course, every individual producer does not contribute exactly this sum; some pay more, some pay less. But this average is sufficiently high, and each person's burden is sufficiently heavy, to make rational men pause ere they propose additions to expenditure, and therefore to taxation, already so onerous.

These considerations, however, have no weight with the class in whose hands an iniquitous system has put the British Army in pawn. Great anxiety is displayed for the interests of our military officers, but very little indeed for those of unhappy taxpayers. Here are we going to expend a sum of money, variously estimated at from £8,000,000 to £12,000,000, to buy back our Army from its officers; but even that enormous sum does not satisfy those gentlemen and their friends, who ask not only the full value of their commissions, regulation and extra-regulation price as well, but demand that the regulation price shall be paid to them at once, while they shall retain the status it has purchased for them. In other words, they seek to keep the positions they have bought and to have the legal sum those positions cost returned to them, reserving their right to put in a claim for the over-regulation price by-and-by. A modest demand that, is it not? And yet it is exactly what the proposition made on Monday night by Colonel Anson, and supported with almost one voice by the military members of the House and their backers, amounts to. Truly, the military mind has wonderful powers of expansion when its own pecuniary interests are involved! Talk of chivalry, patriotism, and love of a "noble profession" after that! Well might Captain Vivian, in opposing the self-denying scheme of Colonel Anson, remark that whereas, when the abolition of purchase was first proposed by Government, the cash-promoted officers asked, "What shall we lose?" now they ask, "How much can we make?" It used to be alleged, and made a theme for boasting, that our military officers served their country as much for the sake of the honour and prestige the service conferred as for the emoluments it offered; and perhaps that was true once. But a change seems to have come over them in this respect, since we find our officers so universally animated by a spirit of huckstering and hankering after self, and their mouths full of discussions as to their own pecuniary interests, while they have scarcely a word to say about the welfare of the private soldier or the honour of their country and profession.

Curious exceedingly, too, are the arguments adduced in support of the claim of Colonel Anson for giving the purchase officers a fresh pull at the national purse-strings. Said the gallant member for Bewdley on Monday:—"When a purchasing officer paid various sums at different times for his commissions, he regarded all those payments as forming part of one large transaction by which he hoped, on the faith of the agreement he entered into with the Government, to eventually attain the object of his ambition—the command of his regiment." From which it would appear that the nation is expected to compensate the purchasing officer not only for what he has bought but for what he hopes to buy—not only for possessions but for aspirations. On this rule, the compensation claimed should be cumulative—that is, a Lieutenant-Colonel, say, should be repaid not merely the value of his present commission but the sums he has paid for his ensigny, his lieutenancy, his captaincy, and his majority, to boot. Indeed, the next claim we expect to hear advanced is for repayment of all these several amounts, whatever they may have been—regulation and extra—with interest and compound interest from the respective dates of investment. It has been discovered, too, that it will be a great hardship for an officer who has bought his way up to a certain point to see juniors advanced over his head under the new system of promotion for merit that is about to be introduced. Now, not to dwell upon the obvious fact that this is a confession of conscious incapacity to rise higher, and of unfitness to have risen so far, except by dint of cash, it is forgotten that this is precisely the hardship which many meritorious officers have had to endure under the purchase system. They have had, time and again, to suffer the injustice of juniors—now confessedly incompetent—being hoisted over their heads for the sole reason that said juniors had money in their purses, though little brains in their heads. Sauce for the goose, gentlemen, ought to be sauce for the gander. If it be vexatious for an officer—and we won't deny that it may—to see a junior promoted over his head even for merit, it must be a still greater hardship to be called upon to endure this humiliation because the junior has cash—and probably nought besides. For our part, we think that if rich incapables who could only gain promotion by purchase, and, purchase being abolished, can no longer hope to attain the object of their ambition—the command of a regiment—the nation and the Army will both be gainers.

To deal in a niggardly fashion with gentlemen who have been tacitly allowed to violate the law, and thereby place themselves, the Army, and the public in a false position, would be unworthy of a great nation; but, since the purchase officers are disposed to press their supposed rights to so extreme lengths, it is high time for the people to look after their interests as well, and to say, with Mr. Rylands, "The authorised value of the commissions we shall pay, but for the extra fancy prices sufficient return has been received in position and prestige; and not one farthing shall be given in compensation to men, be they who they may, for having knowingly broken the

law. The officers have had that for which the law authorised them to pay, and therewith they must be content." Colonel Anson and his supporters, we dare say, did not expect to carry their proposition. Their real object, probably, was to hinder the passage of the bill, and so stave off the abolition of purchase. But the move was ill-advised, for, by advancing extreme and unreasonable claims, they will inevitably provoke rigid scrutiny of others that might have been allowed to pass unchallenged; and, should their last estate prove worse than their first, they will only have themselves to blame.

THE INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION.

HER MAJESTY, accompanied by some members of the Royal family, paid her first visit to the International Exhibition last Saturday.

The ceremony of opening the Exhibition, depicted in our Engraving, was fully described in our last week's Number. It will be remembered that after the report of the Commissioners had been presented, and the Prince of Wales had replied, his Royal Highness advanced to the edge of the dais, and in a clear voice said, "On behalf of her Majesty the Queen, I proclaim the International Exhibition now open." This is the incident portrayed in our Illustration.

Monday, the first shilling day, found a large influx of visitors to the Exhibition. The predominating class of visitor was not, however, as might naturally be expected, of the artisan or workman type, although there were mechanics with their wives and babies in arms to be seen. On the contrary, the majority of visitors were well-to-do folk, with a strong sprinkling of "carriage" people. During the day we saw members of both Houses of Parliament and well-known notabilities from the shires mingling with the throng, and the picture-galleries, which were always most occupied, although there never was any crowding, bore a striking resemblance, so far as the composition of the company went, to the Academy a fortnight after the opening day. The humbler visitors seemed to care but little for what was to be seen above stairs, and, if they came there, looked ill at ease, and soon departed. Next to Regnault's sickly feast of blood, "Lady Godiva" and Millais's "Knight and Lady" attracted the thickest groups, all classes acknowledging by their lingering so long the spell under which the respective artists had placed them. The machinery department, on the ground floor, was always well patronised, especially where the din was loudest and the motion most bewildering. Machinery in action generally fascinates the stranger—perhaps somewhat in the same way as the snake fascinates the bird. It is a tribute to an unseen and mysterious power. Wherever wheels are whirling, hideous arms working up and down, and cranks and leather bands inviting the looker-on to throw himself amongst the cogs and sharp teeth, there one may be assured of an assemblage of timid men and women, gazing under a species of horrible allurement. To others, of course, who understand the complications and are at home amongst them, this department is also well worth a visit. The polished mahogany, and steel burnished like silver, of which some of the machines are made, the West country and Lancashire operatives who attend to their wants, and the clatter and shriek which from morn till night call aloud for an audience, are sufficient to make the annex a popular resort. One stumbles upon strange interpretations of artistic grouping sometimes—as, for example, on one of the landings, where great fun was on Monday being enjoyed at the grouping of the statuary. Clytie was dying in the usual manner in the corner, Musidora turned in bashful grace from a slightly puffed face of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Nausicaa was on the point of hurling her missile at the Prince Consort, and Alderman Cotton and Sir W. Tite, to the extent of their busts, were looking on without attempting to interfere. The tempest in the afternoon caused no little trepidation in the galleries and glass-covered passages. The storm burst in all its fury upon the building, and the lightning playing around the Prince Consort Memorial, which stood grandly out against an inky sky, was watched by hundreds from the Albert Hall.

The first question asked by some of the country visitors who appeared was as to the whereabouts of the sheep and hair-producing animals. These interesting objects were more complaisant than is their wont, and, tempted probably by the splendid sunshine of the earlier part of the day, came out of their retirement and submitted to numerous digs in the ribs and ticklings in the neck. The only exception was an unpleasant-looking creature with a camel's head and neck, and a low, long, ragged body. She had a camel's temper, too, and rewarded anyone who attempted to pet her with a spitting operation the reverse of agreeable. This was the huana. A male llama, presented to the Zoological Society this spring by the Duke of Wellington, lodges next door, and a most comfortable-looking beast he is. Some of Miss Burdett Coutts's alpacas are in an adjoining pen—the llama and alpaca being the tame, as the huana and vicuna were the wild, wool and hair producers of Central America centuries ago. The two mouflons, bred in the Zoological Gardens, represent the only wild sheep found in Europe, are indigenous to Sardinia and Corsica, and look more like gentle goats than sheep. A far different character we are bound to give to the Cashmere-shawl goat, whose long, heavy, curled horn appeared to make his head ache, and who would have been much improved in appearance could he have been safely run through one of the combing-machines within earshot. His long hair surrounded him like a curtain which dragged the ground. There is a fine specimen of the fat-tail sheep, brought by the Duke of Edinburgh from India, and sent by him to Regent's Park. The animal is black, with a tail as broad as a shovel. The Merino rams belong to Messrs. Sturgeon, Sons, and Co., of Gray's Hall, Essex, and, to be strict, are more valuable than beautiful. George II. imported the breed from Spain; but there is only one flock said to be left in the country. Crossed with the Cotswold sheep, a good breed is produced; but for the close, soft wool the Merino stands alone in his glory. Messrs. Dunn, of Wrangle, Gloucestershire, have sent superb specimens of the big Lincoln sheep, celebrated for its long, coarse, deep-grown wool. The fleece of one of the ewes exhibited is 20 lb., and the wool 15 in. long. The Cotswolds, sent by Mr. Brown, of Andoversford, Gloucestershire, are also long-wooled, but the wool is finer. The Cotswolds are the oldest breed in England. A Dorset ram, lent by Mr. J. W. James, of Mawdon Court, Dorsetshire, completes the collection of live muttons; but there are stuffed specimens of Shetland sheep within doors, and an abundance of fleeces.

The number of visitors admitted to the Exhibition last week was as follows:—Season tickets, 28,650; on payment of 10s., 2068; total, 30,718.

DR. DÖLLINGER AND THE GERMAN CATHOLICS.—The German Correspondent of Saturday says that the movement headed by Dr. Döllinger continues to gain ground in Southern Germany. Professor Friedrich, who belongs to the Court by right of his position, has made a personal application to the King of Bavaria for permission to continue his spiritual functions. The question has been referred to the Minister of Public Worship. The students of Munich proposed to arrange a torch procession in honor of Dr. Döllinger, but he declined the honour with thanks, as he had never accepted such compliments, and wished no demonstration of the kind to be made at present. It is said that he intends not to lecture at the University during the next term, but to resume his courses in the winter. The students of Munich are signing an address approving of his views, which is to be forwarded to the other Universities of Germany and Switzerland. Eighty Catholic parishes have signed their approval of Dr. Döllinger's views. Professor Berchtold has published, in the form of a pamphlet, a commentary on the paper he presented to the Munich faculty of law on the dogma of the infallibility of the Pope. The Bavarian bishops are about to meet at Eichstätt for the purpose of forwarding a common letter to the Pope.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

Throughout the whole of Monday the Government troops directed a terrific fire against Forts Issy and Vanves, and also against the bastions of Point du Jour and Vaugirard. One of the results was that Fort Issy was completely evacuated in the evening by the Communists, and on Wednesday morning it was captured and occupied by the Versaillais. The number of guns found in Fort Issy was 109, and ten were captured in the village. Sixty insurgents were found scattered about the fort. The rest of the garrison had escaped. In the fort was a quantity of brandy containing an infusion of tobacco; this makes the liquid of a more intoxicating character. Forts Montrouge and Vanves have been reduced to silence by a battery of mitrailleuses established on a parapet of Issy, which picks off Federal artillerymen when they show themselves. Seven guns on bastions 72, 73, and 74 have been dismounted by the new battery of Montrouge and the bastions silenced. A new heavy battery at Montrouge has been opened, and its fire has proved most effective against the works of the Federalists. The investment of Paris, from Gennevilliers in the north to Fort Issy in the south, is now complete, and it is believed that the attack will not be much longer deferred. The Commune continues to make changes in its war appointments. It is said that the post of Commander-in-Chief is now to be conferred on Dombrowski, who will assume the entire responsibility, provided he is made absolute director of the military operations. Operations against the enceinte of Paris are being actively pushed forward.

Grave dissensions appear to prevail among the leaders of the Communists. Colonel Rossel, the newly-appointed Minister of War, has already resigned. His reasons for taking this step are stated in a letter he has addressed to the Commune. He cannot, he says, accept any longer the responsibility of commanding where everyone deliberates but no one obeys. "I retire," he says, "and I have the honour to demand of you a cell in Mazas." Rossel was arrested on Wednesday, and handed over to the custody of Citizen Gerardin. At five p.m. an announcement was made to the Commune that Rossel had left with Gerardin. The Commune accepted the offer of General Bergeret to re-arrest Rossel. Nevertheless, at two a.m. on Thursday morning this had not been effected. Delescluze has been appointed Delegate for War. In a secret meeting of the Commune, on Tuesday night, it was decided to insist upon the resignation of the actual members of the Committee of Public Safety, to replace them immediately, and to appoint a civil delegate to the War Department, who will be supported by the sitting Military Committee. It was further decided to appoint a committee of three members who are to draw up proclamations. The Commune will only meet three times a week as a deliberative assembly, except in cases of emergency, when it may be called together on the proposal of five members or on the proposal of the Public Safety Committee. It will sit in permanency in the mairies of the respective arrondissements in order to respond authoritatively to the demands of the situation. It was, moreover, determined to establish a court-martial appointed by the military committee, and to render the sittings of the Public Safety Committee permanent at the Hôtel de Ville. The adoption of these resolutions was preceded by a discussion, in which M. Delescluze said that Colonel Rossel was in despair. All his acts were trammeled by the Central Committee, and he had decided not to withdraw his resignation. M. Delescluze appealed to the members of the Commune to forego their animosities. He said that the establishment of unity in command was indispensable; if the Central Committee was able to concentrate the scattered elements for the defence of Paris, it should be welcome to do so. The Official Journal of Wednesday announces the reconstruction of the Committee of Public Safety. The new members are MM. Ranvier, Antoine, Arnaud, Gambon, Eudes, and Delescluze.

The Commune have ordered the suppression of seven more journals, and have issued a decree for the demolition of the Expiatory Chapel of Louis XVI., which, after the Restoration, was built on the spot where the bodies of that King, Marie Antoinette, and other victims of the Reign of Terror of 1793 were supposed to have been buried.

A resolution was recently passed by the Commune that all articles in pawn upon which the maximum amount of 20s. had been advanced should be redeemed at the public expense. This operation will, it is said, cost from eight to ten millions of francs.

A proclamation of M. Thiers to the inhabitants of Paris was posted up in the city on Monday. It points out that the Government of Versailles has been duly elected by the nation, and denounces the small minority who are tyrannising over Paris. It promises to grant the lives of those who will lay down their arms and to continue the subsidies to necessitous workmen. The insurrection, however, must be put an end to or France must perish. Hitherto the Government has confined itself to attacking the outer works, but it will now attack the enceinte. It will not bombard Paris; it will only fire so as to force one gate, and thus limit as much as possible the ravages of war. The Government believes, as soon as the soldiers have passed the enceinte, the great majority of the Parisians will rally round the national flag, and thus prevent the disasters inseparable from an assault. The Committee of Public Safety, in consequence of the above proclamation, has issued a decree ordering the furniture and property of M. Thiers to be seized, and his house in the Place St. George to be immediately demolished.

ALGERIA.

According to intelligence received at Rouen the insurgents in the district of Batma have fired the farms and villages. Colonists are fleeing before them. Owing to the continued insufficiency of troops the district of Setif is in great danger; the insurgents are advancing, and have seized a convoy of prisoners. At Bougie an attack was repulsed by the garrison, which, however, was not sufficiently strong to follow up its success by pursuit.

ITALY.

The Chamber of Deputies, after having agreed to the modifications introduced by the Senate in the Papal Guarantees Bill, on Tuesday approved the bill by 151 votes against 70.

SPAIN.

In the Spanish Senate three amendments to the proposed answer to the Royal Address have been moved by the Bishops of Cuenca, Urgel, and Jaen. The first includes a resolution that Spain should come to an understanding with the other Catholic Powers to restore to the Pope his temporalities. The second calls attention to the injuries that the Church in Spain has suffered from the September revolution; and the third, in more general terms, to the need of legislation on Church subjects.

SWITZERLAND.

According to correspondence sent to the Paris *Réveil* from Geneva, Bonapartist intrigues are being very actively carried on just now in that city. It is even said that the Empress Eugénie is there, and that she has had frequent interviews with M. Clément Duvernois, M. Pietri, M. Janvier de la Motte, and other Imperialist partisans. Envoys from France, principally from St. Germain-en-Laye, arrive every day at Geneva, and no secret is made there of the hope that, as soon as Paris has surrendered, and the Imperial Guard has returned, an effort will be made to restore the dynasty, which cannot fail of success. Firm reliance is placed upon the absolute devotion of the soldiers of Metz, and they have been promised extra pay for services they may be called upon to render. The attitude of the Assembly at Versailles gives great satisfaction to the Bonapartists, as they say it is gratuitously working for them in the best possible manner, and no better opportunity could occur for establishing Napoleon IV. in France.

GERMANY.

The definitive treaty of peace between France and Germany was signed at Frankfort on Wednesday afternoon. It is said that the forts north and east of Paris will be ceded to the Versailles troops even before the first instalment of 500,000,000f. is paid. The Plenipotentiaries have not left, and some French Generals are conferring with Prince Bismarck on frontier questions.

M. Delbrück, on Wednesday, communicated to the Committee of the Reichstag on the incorporation of Alsace and Lorraine that, according to the scheme of the Government, the present division of those provinces into arrondissements will be replaced by districts. The division into cantons is to continue within those districts. Besides these, three larger districts are to be formed, corresponding to the former departments. It is still left doubtful whether a common central authority should reside in the country, or whether the Federal Chancellor is to fulfil its functions. A central authority will, at all events, exist in the country for the regulation of customs and taxes. The commencement of art. 3 is amended, according to the proposal of Herr Lancy, thus:—"The power of the State in Alsace and Lorraine will be exercised by the Emperor."

DENMARK.

A Copenhagen telegram says that a dissension has arisen between the Danish and Prussian Governments owing to an order issued by the Schleswig-Holstein authorities, by which all persons liable to military service in the reserve in Schleswig who emigrated to Denmark when the last wars broke out are peremptorily summoned to return on or before May 15 to their military districts. The Copenhagen Cabinet has applied to the Berlin Government for explanations of this proceeding.

AMERICA.

The United States Senate assembled on Wednesday, and President Grant sent in the Treaty concluded by the High Joint Commission. Mr. Sumner disapproved of certain portions of the Treaty, and stated that the claims of the British subjects should not have been incorporated, and would not have been had the American Commissioners been firm. Mr. Sumner did not intimate how he would vote. The Treaty was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations, and the prospects of its ratification are favourable.

Intelligence from Peru announces that revolutionists captured Lima on April 28. At Valparaiso on the 17th the "vomito" was frightfully prevalent.

INDIA.

His ex-Majesty of Oude, Wajid Ali Shah, has, it is said, become possessed with the idea that the British Government owes him forty lakhs of rupees (£400,000), and intends to prosecute his claim by an appeal, if necessary, to England.

Mirza Secunder Beg, one of the Delhi Royal family, residing at Shiwalik Ghat, Benares, was tried, on April 4, before the Sessions Judge, on the charge of buying slave girls, and sentenced to four years' simple imprisonment and a fine of 500 rupees.

On April 4 a fire broke out at Baroda, by which about 3000 houses were destroyed. The origin of the fire is unknown. Property to the value of about two lakhs of rupees (£20,000) is said to have been destroyed.

PERSIA.

A very lamentable description (the *Bombay Gazette* says) is given of the present state of Persia. Trade is at a stand-still, and failures are occurring daily. The principal staple—silk—exists now only in name. At Teheran the famine is very distressing, and cholera prevails as an epidemic. In the villages the poor are dying by scores, and the towns are crowded with starving beggars. The gypsies are driven to great straits—one tribe near Bushire selling their children for a mere trifle, their daughters (far-famed for their beauty) being sold for 10 rupees apiece.

DR. LIVINGSTONE.

The members of the Royal Geographical Society met, on Monday night, at the University College, Burlington-street—Sir Henry Rawlinson, K.C.B., in the chair. There was a large attendance. The following letters were read, re-reading to Dr. Livingstone, from Dr. Kirk, Consul at Zanzibar, addressed to Earl Granville, including copies of letters received from Ujiji, from which it will be seen that up to five months ago Dr. Livingstone was at a place named Manakoso, only awaiting supplies which were sent from Zanzibar last year, and that have now reached him, or at least have been forwarded from Ujiji to the place where he is:—

(Translation.)

COPY OF A LETTER TO CONSUL KIRK, ZANZIBAR, FROM SHEREEF BANLUKH BIN AHMED.

I have to inform you that on the 15th Shaban (Nov. 10) a messenger came from the people of Minama with letters from the Arabs who are there, and one from the Doctor, and these letters were dated the 20th Rجب (Oct. 15). In answer to my inquiries, they told me that the Doctor was well, although he had been suffering, and he was for the present at the town of Manakoso with Mahomet Bin Shirib, waiting for the caravan, being helpless, without means, and with few followers (only eight men), so that he cannot move elsewhere or come down. We have sent off twelve of our men with American cloth, kinki, beads, sugar, coffee, salt, two pairs of shoes, shot, powder, and soap, and a small bottle of medicine (quinine). All that he was in want of we have sent him, and I remain at Ujiji waiting his orders.—20th Shaban (Nov. 15, 1870).

The following extract was also forwarded to the Foreign Office by Dr. Kirk:—

TO QUADDA DANJI, FROM SACEB BIN MAZID (AN ARAB MERCHANT.)

(After Compliments.)

This letter is from Ujiji, and the news here is good, and nothing but good to report; trade also is prosperous.

Letters have come from the people of Minama, from Mahomet Bin Shirib and his people, and they have got good prices, such as please them, and the Christian in their company, and they intend returning to Ujiji in the month of Safr (April, 1871).

Shereef reached Ujiji, having with him the goods of the Christian, and we intend sending some of these goods to him, for he is destitute; and the people of Shereef will accompany the messengers who take the letters.

Zanzibar, February, 1871.

My Lord,—I have the honour to report that, information having reached me through a native that the men sent off by Mr. Churchill with stores for Dr. Livingstone, as reported in his despatch of Nov. 18, 1870, were still at Bagamozo, a coast town on the opposite mainland, and had not taken any steps to procure porters and proceed on their journey, I determined if possible to go on myself and see them off. Captain Tucker, commanding her Majesty's ship *Columbine*, on my request, kindly offered to place his ship at my disposal for this purpose. On reaching Bagamozo I found that the men referred to were still living in the village, while Arab caravans set out on the same journey. It is true that porters this year are difficult to obtain, few of the people of Unyamwezi having come down, in consequence of death last year from cholera among their friends. However, by influence with the Arabs I succeeded at once in sending off all but four loads, and followed inland one day's journey myself. The remaining four loads I arranged on my return were to be taken as far as Unyamwezi by an Arab caravan, and hence sent on to Ujiji by Samb Bin Salim, the governor. Once fairly off on the road there is little to induce these people to delay, whereas at Bagamozo, living in good huts, among their own people, and thinking to enjoy themselves and earn monthly pay, had I not gone in person they might have loitered yet several months.

While passing along the trade route on the short excursion I made to Bagamozo, we met several caravans on their way from Unyamwezi, Urori, &c., and, by questioning the natives as well as the leaders, found that no news had been received lately at Unyamwezi from Ujiji, and nothing was known of Dr. Livingstone. All were aware that he had gone on a journey from which he had not returned up to the latest dates.

The country I passed through after crossing the river Kingani was like a beautiful park and woodland full of all sorts of big game, including the elephant, eland, zebra, harte-beeste, wilde-beeste, &c., some of which I shot not more than twelve miles from the coast town of Bagamozo. The Kingani river was full of hippopotami, and on its banks are found the wild buffalo.

Unfortunately, wherever the giraffe exists in numbers the rich and comparatively healthy region is infested by the "Jæsts" fly, so dangerous to cattle and horses.

On my return to Bagamozo, I devoted a day to the study of the French mission established, and their management of freed slaves. On this I shall do myself the honour to submit a separate report to your Lordship.

Since my visit four years ago, I found the town of Bagamozo to have suffered to extent, native huts being replaced by stone buildings, and here, as elsewhere on the coast, the trade rapidly passing into the hands of the Kuchiess.—I have, &c.,

JOHN KIRK,

Mr. Francis Galton and the Rev. Horace Waller, of Bishop Mackenzie's mission, Zambezi, described, by means of maps, the geographical location of that part of the country where the great African explorer is said in the above correspondence to be staying.

A "CAMP MEETING."

STROLLING down the Caledonian-road last Saturday night, among the marketing folk, the following announcement on a poster outside a shop caught my eye:—"A great camp meeting will be held tomorrow in Tall-Trees Meadow, on the north side of the cattle-market. Processions will start about 8.30 from the following places: Top of Great College-street, bottom of Caledonian-road, top of Pentonville and White Lion-street. The processions will proceed to the south end of Hemingford-road, Copenhagen-street, where a short address will be delivered at 9.15; after which a general procession will be conducted by the Rev. Thomas Penrose to the camp-ground, Public love-feasts in the evening in the chapels." A camp meeting in London! This, when found, was surely worth making a note of. A note of it I made, and was punctual at the rendezvous on Sunday morning. The first to approach was the King's-cross contingent. It had halted in the Caledonian-road for a hymn and a prayer, and then formed ranks again and marched up Copenhagen-street to the place appointed for the rendezvous. No connection seemed to suggest itself between Primitive Methodism and matchmaking, so the representative member of the Metropolitan Police force who was on the ground did not feel called upon to interfere. The procession breasted the steep hill manfully, five or six ranks deep, each rank locked arm-in-arm. They moved to the quick step of a hymn, which they sang lustily, especially the chorus:—

For you must be a lover of the Lord,
For you must be a lover of the Lord,
For you must be a lover of the Lord,
Or you can't go to heaven when you die!

This was repeated over and over again, the singing led by two gentlemen who marched backwards up hill with great dexterity. As the King's-cross contingent came one way, the Islington detachment came the other; the two coalesced, both physically and vocally, and formed a large ring at the end of Hemingford-road. Soon after the voice of the Camden Town contingent was heard in the distance, and it presently joined also.

Sunday processions have not been altogether unknown in London of late years. Their features are much the same—red flags or green, Phrygian caps, blasphemous litanies, a general aspect indicating a scarcity of soap, the stump, and fluent balderdash spiced with snarling sedition. Sunday's procession differed from these in every particular. Those who formed it were respectable, peaceable, God-fearing people—all dressed in their Sunday's best. The great majority seemed respectable mechanics, but Sunday is a bad day for discriminating classes in a church-going sect. There were many females in the processions, and the good ladies had solved in a very simple way what is one of the standing difficulties when a London mother of the working-classes desires to accompany her husband to church—viz., what to do with the children. They had brought the children with them, even unto the baby, and not a few fathers were to be seen marching on the flank of a rank with a young one perched on his shoulder. Hemingford-road received the Primitive Methodists with great decorum, which ought to be no great credit to them, but only a matter of course; yet was a credit in a relative sense, as most Londoners will understand. There was no chaff or rude banter. The singing, I think, tamed the somewhat savage breast of the side-streets of the Caledonian-road. "It does one good to hear 'em, anyhow, don't it, father?" I heard a woman out marketing—that hard necessity of the Sunday morning with so many—remark to her lord and master in moleskin—unshaven as to chin and unlaced as to high-lows. "Well, it do, Bet," growled her owner; "and I'm blowed if I'd mind belonging to 'em." Strange glimmer of awakening battling its way by the impetus of an oath through the fog! Some friend came by with a certain "dawg" under his arm, about which there was a whispered talk, and then Bet's owner, shaking off the momentary weakness, went away with the dog-fancier. But Bet lingered from her marketing, and took the hymn-leaplet when it was tendered her; *ay*, and tried what her poor cracked voice might make of "For you must be a lover of the Lord," and of the "Hallelujah Chorus" which followed it.

The arrival of the third contingent rather broke up the chorus into raggedness, so the reverend conductor arrested the strain, to remonstrate that they "did not bowl it round" earnestly enough, and then restarted it. The hint told. I had thought that before there was no lack either of earnestness or of volume, but the Primitive Methodists must have been husbanding their strength till the little complaint about defective "bowling round" knocked off the valve. When the singing was at length concluded, a clergyman made a few remarks, which partook more of the nature of a prayer than an address. It was annotated, rather than broken, by frequent exclamations from the listeners. Some of these were inarticulate, something between a groan and an ejaculation; others took the forms of "Amen," "Ah yes," "God be thanked," "By His grace," and so on. When the prayer was over, a delegate, who seemed to act as a kind of unwarlike quartermaster-general, explained the route in a few words, directed the assemblage to form in ranks, twelve men in each, linked arm-in-arm, and that a certain detachment on reaching the "camp" should march on stand No. 1, while another should diverge to stand No. 2. The Rev. Mr. Penrose, who was the leader of the procession (nominally, although not actually, for his front was covered by a light division of boys and lads), gave the word to march by striking up a hymn, and so the procession, perhaps a thousand strong, set out up the Hemingford-road in steady slow time.

There lives in these parts a certain man, than whom there is no more persevering or more gallant warrior with the sin and misery of this great city. What Mr. Catlin, the missionary, has done and is doing in the foul closes and stifling courts of Clerkenwell no one can know, unless he has gained his knowledge by personal experience. That gentleman's wife died last week. She was a fitting helpmate to her husband, as many a poor creature knows well. Some eighteen months ago I had occasion to penetrate into the haunts where "famine fever" was reaping the harvest that hardship and starvation had sown. In one Clerkenwell attic I entered, where four out of its six inhabitants were down with the fever, I found Mrs. Catlin quietly installed as sick nurse, performing cheerfully the most menial offices, and brightening the dingy attic like a sunbeam. Her mourning husband, a man of much the same simple, strong religious faith as themselves, is known to the Primitive Methodists. Their leader halted them opposite his house, observing that if "they were to sing a verse or two in front of it, Mr. Catlin might find some comfort in the words as well as in the intention." Let us hope the well-meant serenade was not altogether ineffectual. Then on steadily up the road, ever singing; for no amount of vocal music seems to fatigue the Primitive Methodists. As the procession passed the back of the Holloway Prison its leader called for a strain of exceptional loudness, in the hope, as he expressed himself, "that it might ring into the cells of the poor sinners within, and set them a-thinking for their own good."

"Tall-Trees Meadow" has but one tree in it, and the "camp meeting" was so only in name. Although there were no tents, only a little grass and a couple of waggons, yet there was something pastoral in the scene, for sheep were feeding on the meadow, and when one was tired of standing he might lie down on the sward. The two waggons were at some distance one from the other, and both were full of delegates, of whom one was present from each of the thirty-eight stations in the districts. Each speaker had a quarter of an hour allotted to him; he was partitioned off from his predecessor by a hymn, and there was a regularly arranged order of proceedings, with the hour printed for each speaker. The listeners were pretty evenly divided, but it was plain that most knew when and where the cream was to be found; and now the crowd was dense round one waggon, now round the other. Many of the speakers were men of great power

of eloquence; almost all were ready and telling. There was much plain practicality and straight-hitting good sense; very little wordiness; and a genuine community of feeling between speakers and hearers. The illustrations of one of the delegates were very apposite as well as quaint. His subject was religious light, and he was showing that light *on us* was of little account; that the desideratum was light *in us*. "Look at the sunlight on yonder tiled roof," said he; "it is bright enough, even dazzling, but it does not help in the least to light the house the roof covers. That house would be dark enough if it were lit only by the light on it. But throw that servant drawing up the blind. See! now the light is streaming in through the window. The light is *in* the house now, not *on* it." Again, referring to the true light of God as contrasted with false lights, this was his figure:—"You have to pay for artificial light; your gas bills come in regularly. You have just barely escaped having yet more to pay for artificial light. But the daylight is better than the best artificial light, and you never hear of God sending in His bills for so many days of his glorious sunlight."

The "camp meeting" lasted all day, with a break at mid-day for dinner. The evening love-feasts were interesting, but the interest was not of a kind to be dealt with here. Individuals stood up as they felt moved, and related each his or her own religious experiences, troubles, difficulties, or triumphs. The feast proper was a mere conventionality of bread and water.

There was a "camp meeting" on Sunday in each of the districts throughout England into which the Primitive Methodist circuits are grouped. The gathering is an annual one, in commemoration of the great meeting at Mow Cop, in Shropshire, at which the sect may be said to have been founded. Delegates, lay and clerical, are interchanged between the districts; nor do these go to hotels or require to seek lodgings, being "entertained" by resident members, whose addresses, with the name of the appointed guest for each, are contained in the printed programme of which every delegate has a copy. It may be long before London sees another Primitive Methodist "Camp Meeting." The last previous one in the metropolis was held seven years ago.—*Daily News*.

THE BRECON ELECTION PETITION.—On Monday the second petition against the return of Mr. Gwynne Holford for Brecon was heard before Mr. Justice Lush. The ground of its presentation was that a dinner was given by Mrs. Holford, mother of the hon. member, on Sept. 30 last, a fortnight after the first petition had been decided, at which there was treating within the meaning of the Act. The defence was that the entertainment was given from pure motives. The Judge decided that Mr. Holford had been duly elected, and dismissed the petition, with costs.

EDUCATION IN INDIA.—The thirteenth annual meeting of the Christian Vernacular Education Society for India was held on Tuesday, at Willis's Rooms, St. James's—the Earl of Shaftesbury presiding. The report, which was adopted on the motion of the Bishop of Madras, seconded by Mr. Macfie, M.P., recalled to mind that the society was a memorial of the great Indian Mutiny, and that since its formation it has expended upwards of £20,000 in the printing of Christian vernacular literature in thirteen of the principal languages, spoken by 180 millions of our Indian fellow-subjects. Its agencies are at work in Bengal, the North-West Provinces, the Punjab, Bombay, Central India, Madras, and Ceylon. The circles of its action in 1869 were 18; last year they were 20. Its schools, which numbered 105, are now 117; while the total of its pupils has risen from 4111 to 6122, thus showing an increase for the year of two circles, twelve schools, and 1011 scholars. At the present time the society has 103 students in training as vernacular teachers, and 6224 Heathen children in their schools receiving instruction in secular subjects and the Bible, from Christian masters. It has three training institutions, erected at a cost of £5000, and about 150 native teachers have been prepared and placed in charge of schools principally connected with missionary societies. These teachers are educating thousands of children in addition to those in the society's own schools. Their number is being increased at the rate of about forty every year, and the publications of the society, of which 3,000,000 copies have been circulated, are extensively used in the missionary schools throughout India. The society's income for the year amounted to £7451 17s. 7d. Its operations are superintended by committees at Calcutta, Allahabad, Umritsar, Ahmednugur, Madras, and Colombo.

NOTES ON THE CIVIL WAR IN FRANCE.

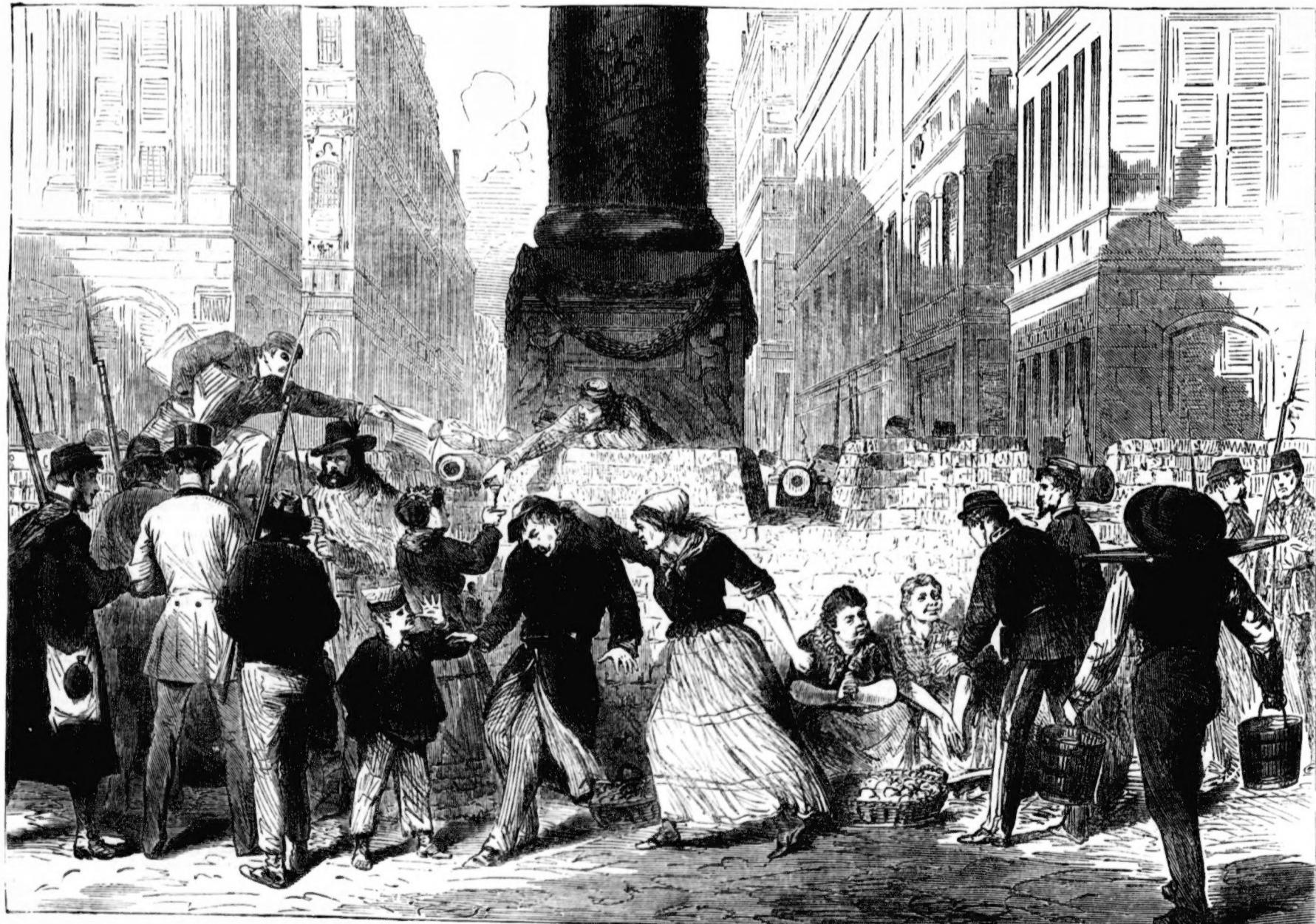
THE ARMY OF THE COMMUNE.—The muster-roll of the National Guards appears in the *Official Journal* of last Saturday, from which it appears that the Parisian army is divided into 24 marching legions and 25 sedentary ones. This, however, is only upon paper. Really and truly there are but 20 marching and 20 sedentary legions, corresponding to the 20 arrondissements into which Paris is divided. There is not an officer nor a man to be reckoned to any legion numbered above 20. As for the marching legions—that is, those which are prepared to go out of Paris to fight—they are directed by 3655 commissioned officers, of whom 3413 answered to the call on the 4th inst.; while the non-commissioned officers and men make up a total of 96,325, of whom 84,986 answered to the call on the same day. The greatest number of these men are furnished by the 11th and 18th Arrondissements—that is, the districts of the Boulevard Prince Eugène and Montmartre—the former furnishing a contingent of 13,500 men, the latter one of 20,500. The Sedentary Guards on the same day boasted a total of 3252 officers, of whom 3094 answered to the call; and the non-commissioned officers and men made up a total of 94,100, of whom 77,665 put in an appearance. Of the Sedentary Guards the largest contingent is furnished by the 11th Arrondissement (Prince Eugène), which counts a force of 12,344. Next in importance are the 15th and 4th Arrondissements—that is, the districts of Vaugirard and the Hôtel de Ville—which furnish respectively 8000 and 7500 men. The 2nd Arrondissement—that of the Bourse—furnishes only 1058 to the marching division, and 2921 to the sedentary force. The 8th Arrondissement—that of the Faubourg St. Honoré—furnishes 1151 to the marching legions, and 921 to the sedentary ones. The least martial of all the districts is the 16th—that of Passy—which furnished only 537 men to the marching division, and 915 to the sedentary one. The grand total of the National Guards on whom the Commune can count stands at 190,425 men, of whom, on the day when the muster-roll was made up, 162,651 answered to the call. This is, after all, a considerable force, especially when we take into account that its business is mainly to fight behind walls. And as to its quality, it is a mistake to suppose that the Parisian commanders indulge in any illusions, however much they may feel the necessity of encouraging the troops by exceeding praise. The men are undisciplined and unsteady—sometimes fighting wonderfully well, and at other times yielding to indescribable panics. The very same battalions, too, exhibit this inequality of temper—losing their character one day, and recovering it with honour the next. And all these forces are now being so thoroughly reorganised by the young Colonel who is invested with the supreme command, that there is every probability of their giving a great deal of trouble to Marshal M'Mahon.

THE TROOPS AT VERSAILLES.

The whole force now at Versailles is called "The Army of Paris," and it is divided into "The Army of Reserve," under General Vinoy, and "The Army of Versailles," under Marshal M'Mahon. General Vinoy's army consists of four divisions, of which General Lavocoupet commands the first, General Subselle the second, General Brut the third, and General Grenier the fourth. In each division there are two brigades, in each brigade two regiments, in each regiment three battalions. "The Army of Vers



THE CIVIL WAR IN FRANCE: VOLUNTEERS TAKING A MITRAILLEUSE TO THE BATTERIES AT MONTMARTRE.—(SEE PAGE 301.)



BARRICADE-BUILDING IN THE PLACE VENDÔME.—(SEE PAGE 301.)

corps of "The Army of Versailles" are composed entirely of soldiers who have come back from captivity in Germany. The effective strength of the two armies—the reserve and that called the Army of Versailles—was last Saturday morning rather more than 126,000 men of all arms, with 600 pieces of artillery, including both siege and field guns. With an army of this strength it may seem to many that Paris ought long ago to have been in the hands of the lawful Government of France. But, from the time of Troy downwards in history, a siege has ever proved a much longer affair than it was expected to be when it began. It is just five weeks on Sunday since the first fighting with the insurgents at Courbevoie took place. Since that date the Commune in Paris acknowledge to having lost in killed and wounded 12,200 men, while rather more than 3500 have been brought into Versailles as prisoners, and thirty-five guns of different sorts have been captured. The French have a proverb which says that one cannot make an omelette without breaking eggs; so it is not surprising to learn that the Government troops have experienced considerable losses, which are, however, small when compared with those of the enemy. The official return of the killed and wounded in the Versailles army down to the 4th inst. is rather more than 1000; but the enemy has captured neither prisoners nor guns.

CITIZEN ROSEL.

One, at least, of the insurgent leaders in Paris seems to be a man of undeniably talent. The *Paris Journal* says of him:—"This man, at least, is a soldier—a true soldier. Besides this, he can think, he can work, he knows much, and has ideas on that which he knows, not exactly similar to those of others.... The fact is that Rossel is the chief of the insurrection. Here is what we know of his antecedents:—When the war broke out he was a captain of engineers at Bourges. He had already published essays on military subjects which had excited notice, especially two very curious articles in which he proved that the works on strategy attributed to Napoleon I, by the Commission named to complete

his correspondence were not and could not be his work. The

articles written by Citizen Rossel were then signed Randal. The Commission, struck by the competent manner in which they demolished the assertions publicly made by its members, sent to the *Temps* to know who was the author. Rossel was acknowledged to be in the right. The manuscripts left, if we mistake not, by General Bertrand, came, indeed, from St. Helena; but the Imperial mind went for nothing in their contents. War being declared, Rossel left Bourges and hastened to Paris to obtain active service. He took all sorts of steps—asked, entreated, addressed himself to small and great, and obtained nothing. This refusal greatly affected him. He then, in a moment of disgust and discouragement, formed the intention of leaving military life. He wished to become a journalist. The editor of the *Temps*, who had been struck by the unusual intelligence of his temporary contributor, thought this a dangerous step to take, and wrote him a long letter entering into the whole subject, and dissuading him from leaving a career already happily and worthily begun to enter upon one in which the best men often spend years before obtaining the eminence they deserve. Rossel was convinced. He remained a soldier. Rossel was sent some time after this to Metz by Government to

complete the arming of that place. He there heard of our first disasters—Wörth, Forbach, Wissembourg. He felt that France was lost, and imagined a means of defence by means of guerrilla bands, the plan for which he propounded in another article for the *Temps*. Rossel was made prisoner at Metz, but succeeded in escaping. Gambetta made him Colonel of Engineers, with which rank he went through the campaign with the Loire army. Citizen Rossel is thirty-four years old. He is fair and thin, not military-looking, as he wears no moustache. His blue eye is generally mild, but darts metallic gleams at times. He can write. The articles in the *Temps* were complete, concise, well arranged, in true military style. He speaks less well. His speech is first hesitating, then, rising into passion, it becomes hurried; and he seeks to express his ideas by a multitude of short, sharp sentences, tumbling over each other without method. He is not an orator; yet in hearing him, as in seeing him or reading his writings, one feels that there is something in the man? What is that something? Ambition."

A ROW IN THE ASSEMBLY.

A tremendous row occurred in the Assembly last Saturday. M.

Tolain, one of the few deputies for Paris who have not resigned their seats, mounted the tribune to ask a question of the Minister of War. A placard on white paper was, he said, extensively posted on the walls of Paris, and had made a great sensation, stating that on April 25 an outpost of four Paris National Guards had been surprised and surrounded by a body of 200 chasseurs. They offered no resistance, threw down their arms, and were made prisoners. At first there was no thought of harming them; but there came Captain —. At these words a tumult ensued which made it impossible for M. Tolain to utter another audible word. It was very evident he meant to inquire whether it was true that the four prisoners had been shot; and the majority was thoroughly determined not to let him put the question. He several times descended the steps of the tribune, throwing up his hands as a protest against the intolerance of the Assembly; and then, encouraged by the cheers of his friends on the Left, went up again. When at last he went away altogether, General Le Flô approached the tribune as if he were going to speak; but loud shouts of "Don't answer!" induced him to resume his seat on the Ministerial benches. The Left then took up the running, and insisted on a fair hearing for Tolain. Suddenly Colonel Langlois rose from his seat, gesticulated violently, and, while friends in vain attempted to hold him down, pushed his way across the knees of other members to the sort of "fops' alley," which forms a passage in the centre of the House. There he struck attitudes at the end of several benches of the Right, alternately folding his arms, and stretching out his right arm to its full length, as if threatening somebody. Then he ran at racing speed to the end of the passage farthest from the presidential chair, and pursued his wild course round the House, disturbing many of the "Rurals" in their seats. Very soon nobody was seated. Every member rose to look at the deputy, who was acting like a madman, although he is frequently complimented as the most sensible and moderate Radical in the House. All this time M. Grévy in vain

rang his bell to restore order. The ushers, after many cries of "Please be seated, gentlemen," succeeded in making silence enough for M. Grévy's powerful voice to be heard. With something like humour he reproached honourable members for "lightly" interrupting, meaning that they made heavy interruptions for a light cause. A question had been asked of the Minister for War; it was open to the Minister to answer or not to answer, as he pleased, and there was no occasion for any comotion. The Minister would be quite justified in not answering a question which was a libel upon the whole army. The applause from the majority which followed these words seemed at first destined to prevent General Le Flô from saying a word. But after much hesitation and a private conversation with M. Jules Simon he got into the tribune merely to say that he was much obliged to M. Grévy for treating as a calumny a statement which was as absurd as the Communal bulletins of their victories. It will be observed that no specific answer to M. Tolain's question was given. The cause of Colonel Langlois's excitement, it seems, was that some of the Deputies had refused to permit M. Tolain to be styled "honourable," and M. Langlois was bent on compelling them to accord his friend this title of courtesy.



GENERAL CLUSERET, LATE MINISTER FOR WAR OF THE PARIS COMMUNE.—(SEE PAGE 301.)



VERSAILLES PRISONERS CONDUCTED INTO PARIS.—(SEE PAGE 301.)

INNER LIFE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—NO. 401.

MR. WILLIAM TORRENS McCULLAGH TORRENS.

On Thursday, the 4th, we had a third battle on the Budget—third and last, let us hope. The leader of the Opposition on this occasion was Mr. William Torrens McCullagh Torrens, the well-known member for Finsbury. He, though leader of the Opposition, is a Radical. It is no uncommon thing nowadays for the gentlemen below the gangway to be in unusual opposition to the Government; unnatural, but yet natural on such occasions as this. When a Liberal Government proposes war Budgets in times of peace, they cannot hope for the support of Radicals. Mr. McCullagh Torrens is the son of the Rev. James McCullagh, and until a few years ago was William Torrens McCullagh. But, in 1863—for a good reason, no doubt—he added his mother's maiden name to his patronymic. Mr. Torrens was born in 1813, and is therefore fifty-eight years old. He was educated at Trinity College, Dublin, where he graduated LL.B. He was called to the Bar in Ireland in 1836; in 1835 he was Assistant Commissioner of the Irish Poor Inquiry; and in 1846 was private secretary to the Right Hon. Henry Labouchere (afterwards Lord Taunton), at that time Secretary for Ireland. Mr. Torrens is also a member of the Guild of Literature. He has published "Lectures on the Use of the Study of History," "The Industrial History of Free Nations," &c. In 1847 he contested Dundalk, but was defeated; his opponent was, however, unseated on petition, and then Mr. Torrens was elected without opposition, and sat for that small Irish borough until the dissolution of Parliament in 1852. In that year he contested Yarmouth unsuccessfully; but in 1857 he was returned for this borough at the head of the poll; but, on a petition the election was declared void, and he was relegated to exile from the House for nine years. But in 1865 Finsbury honoured him and itself by returning him to Parliament at the head of the poll, and in 1868 it wisely did the same. Mr. Torrens is Irish by birth, but probably of Scotch extraction, as many Irishmen are. His general character, his demeanour, his style of speaking, all seem to prove this. He is grave, staid, and rarely impulsive and impetuous, as the Irish are; and, though he is a ready speaker, he is not volatile of speech nor vehement in action. Then he is a close, cogent reasoner, aiming to convince the minds of his hearers and not to move their passions and sympathies—all which is not Irish: very un-Irish, we should say; for your real Milesian is rarely a cogent reasoner. There is, though, a touch of the Irishman in the hon. member—something in his accent. He has, too, humour; and, when moved, can be impressive, and even passionate. Mr. Torrens was an original member of the Anti-Corn-Law League, and an efficient member, as our memory testifies; for we, too, belonged to that brotherhood, and, though only as a mere common soldier, fought in the great war which they waged against the monopolists of the people's food.

HIS SPEECH.

Mr. McCullagh Torrens is not a frequent speaker in the House, and rarely makes a long speech. But on Thursday he spoke for nearly an hour. His speech was closely argumentative from beginning to end; delivered easily, slowly, with but little (though sufficient) emphasising action, in rather a low tone of voice. It is pity that Mr. Torrens's voice is not stronger; for, unless the House be very quiet, it is sometimes difficult to follow him in the gallery; and in a closely argumentative speech, if you lose a link in the reasoning, the whole argument is marred. It was a very able speech. Part of it we heard, and have since read it all; and the replies to it; and have this to say of it. Though several members "answered" it, its arguments were by none confuted. It was sharply assailed by members of the Government, and their allies; but in vain. In the wordy storm great waves of sophistry rolled against it; but, when the storm was over, there it stood, trim and unscathed. By-the-way, Mr. Torrens in his speech made a slight mistake. He said that, in 1816, Brougham and Whitbread, Romilly and Russell, denounced the keeping up the income tax to liquidate the debt. Mr. Whitbread died in July, 1815. Mr. White seconded the amendment moved by Mr. Torrens. The honourable member for Brighton has now fairly won a position in the House. On financial matters he has become an authority, and the *Times* now reports his speeches in full. We are specially gratified by this, because long ago, as our readers will remember, we recorded in these columns our appreciation of the abilities of the hon. gentleman. Old Fuller says that the top stories of very tall houses are often badly furnished. Mr. White is a confutation of this theory, or an exception to the rule. But he proves old Tony Weller's adage that "width and wisdom generally go together."

A CITY MEMBER.

Mr. Crawford, member for the city of London, followed Mr. White, appropriately, for these two are the biggest men in the House. Both are more than 6 ft. high, and both in breadth and bulk are vast and ponderous. Mr. Crawford defended the Government, as he generally does. He sits close behind the Treasury Bench "like a buttress," as one said, alluding to his massive form and his readiness at all times to support her Majesty's Ministers. Mr. Crawford is (or has been) Governor of the Bank of England, and is a great man in the City—"a merchant prince," if there be merchant princes now. Mr. Crawford is or ought to be an authority on financial matters. Mr. Bernal Osborne, at all events, estimates Mr. Crawford's knowledge of figures, if not finance—and the two are not identical—very highly; for he, in a speech that evening, dubbed the honourable gentleman "a ready reckoner," at which the House laughed consummately. Mr. Crawford's speeches are of the chit-chat, conversational sort; rather humdrum; but no doubt they contain useful stuff.

MR. OSBORNE.

After a characteristically dull, but happily short, speech from Mr. Fowler, the member for Penry, to an impatient, restless House, Mr. Osborne—who, as we could see, had long been hanging on the slip, like an eager greyhound when game is afoot—rose, and straightway the House was all ear, all eye, all expectation. Mr. Osborne, was in full feather, in one of his most rollicking, happiest moods, that night. There was no concatenation of argument: this sort of thing is not the honourable member's forte. When he attempts it he fails: either his premisses are unsound, or there is some missing link in the chain. When we see the honourable member with a bluebook in his hand we know he will be ineffective, if not dull—no, not dull; but Mr. Osborne never can be, nor unamusing. Indeed, we have often laughed at the air of confidence with which he introduces a fallacy, the audacity with which he clenches it with a misapplied fact, and then flings the bluebook upon the seat, as much as to say, "There, what does the House think of that? Is not that a poser?" And we have ever laughed at his wit; and all the more because we have fancied that the hon. gentleman did not himself believe his own logic, but was, with wicked humour, gammoning the hon. gentlemen opposite, and that while they were cheering his "conclusive reasoning" he was laughing in his sleeve. But in this speech there was no attempt at reasoning, nor was there any coherence hanging together in it; it was disjointed. But every now and then there were flashes of wisdom which deserved better than laughter. For example, that was exceedingly wise advice which he proffered to her Majesty's Government—not so frequently to call for votes of confidence, or, in other words, to turn every question into a vote of confidence, as they have been too much disposed to do of late. This was good counsel, and much needed. This practice cramps freedom of opinion, and compels men against their will to give up to party what was meant for mankind; and, further presents to an astonished public the not very creditable spectacle of members speaking one way and voting another. There was much wisdom, too, in Mr. Osborne's strictures upon the extravagance of our expenditure. There was quiet humour also in these strictures, with touches of irony, which must, as one said, have touched some of our Radical Ministers (once

loud for economy, but now proposing or supporting increased expenditure) "on the raw," and made them wince. Then, lastly, note the jets of witty sarcasm which in the course of his speech spurted out—e.g., the Chancellor of the Exchequer "is nothing if he be not classical." A palpable hit that. Then he called the majority of eighty-five "those eighty-five confounding creatures who at the time they voted for the Government deprecated the conduct of the Government." On the whole, this, we think, was one of the best speeches Mr. Osborne ever delivered; and, though he fogged the Government somewhat sharply, it was, if not in sorrow, certainly not in anger. Moreover, he gave them no more than what some of their best friends think they deserved.

MR. GOSCHEN.

The Prime Minister seems to have discovered that he cannot do all the Government work of the House. At the beginning of the session he appeared to be disposed to monopolise all the labour; but he has found out that, vast as are his powers, "he is no Atlas for so great a weight." On Monday in last week he called in the aid of Mr. Stanfeld; on Thursday he put up Mr. Goschen; and, no doubt, he will soon utilise Mr. Forster's debating powers. Mr. Goschen, men say, is the rising man in the Government. But why "rising"? The right hon. gentleman has risen. He is First Lord of the Admiralty; and this position has always been considered to be on the level of that of Chief Secretary of State. Mr. Gladstone did wisely in putting up Mr. Goschen, for he is an exceedingly able man, and wise and cautious withal. But he is not nor can he ever be an orator, with that husky voice of his—that unpolished, rugged style—that dry, logical mind. Mr. Goschen has light, but it is *lumen sicuum*—to use Lord Bacon's phrase—dry light: there is no warmth in it, nor colour. Mr. Osborne, we said, is no logician. Mr. Goschen is a logician and nothing more; no fancy, no imagination, no humour irradiates his speeches. It is no easy task to listen throughout to a long speech of Mr. Goschen; but if you can, you will learn much, perhaps have doubts removed and convictions strengthened.

MR. W. H. SMITH.

If Westminster must be represented by a Conservative, let the Conservatives stick to Mr. William Henry Smith; for no borough in the metropolis—or, indeed, out of it—has a more useful, hard-working, intelligent representative than Mr. Smith. It must have been observed that Mr. Smith is not a violent party-man; in party struggles he never comes to the front. He has taken to social questions, and he does his work honestly and well. "But he is a Conservative," some of our impetuous Radical readers may exclaim. True, but what of that? Think you that there are no good and useful Conservatives in the House? Clear your head of all that rubbish, if it be there. We are Liberal—Radical even; we dwell in Westminster and have a vote for that borough, and, of course, did not vote for Mr. Smith. But we hesitate not to say that, politics apart, Westminster never had a more useful member. We wish that he sat on the other side of the House; but, nevertheless, we are glad to see him here. And so we are to see Mr. Graves, of Liverpool, another most useful Conservative member; and Mr. Peek, the gallant defender of the people's rights of common. Indeed, if we had a vote for Mid-Surrey, we think that, for the first time in our lives, we should, rather than lose Mr. Peek, vote for a Conservative. But to return to Mr. Smith. He speaks well—easy, simply, clearly, concisely. On Friday week the poor in the metropolis were his subject. He proposed to call attention to this matter, and this he efficiently did. He called attention, and got it—silent, unbroken attention. Many members call attention in the House, but, like Owen Glendower's spirits, it does not come at their call. Mr. Smith called, and it came; and a very appalling picture Mr. Smith presented; but of that nothing here. Most Friday nights are wasted; thanks to Mr. Smith, this night was not.

PROFESSOR FAWCETT.

"Truth in private life, untruth in public, marks Englishmen. Their political conduct is not decided by general views, but by intrigue and personal and family interests." So writes Emerson in his "English Traits," and this witness we must with shame confess is true. If, now, the House of Commons could for the nonce be changed into "a palace of truth," in which every man would be irresistibly compelled to speak, and to speak truth! Heavens and earth! what revelations—what transformations—we should have! Tories would talk Radicalism, Radicals Toryism; and many a man would have to confess that half his votes had been given, not conscientiously, but to keep his seat. "Is that possible?" our readers, may, perhaps, ask. Possible! Certain! A cynical friend of ours said the other day, on seeing a crowd of people pouring out of a West-End church, "If that church were a real 'palace of truth,' the parson would have a small congregation. Indeed, it is not unlikely that the pulpit would be empty. Pope says, 'An honest man's the noblest work of God.'" Upon hearing which, another cynic added, "And the rarest." But we have honest men in the House of Commons, though we don't call them by that epithet; we term them "impracticals." So, readers, when you hear a man stigmatised as impractical, reflect that probably he is only honest—too honest to be moulded and shaped for party purposes. For example, Professor Fawcett is called here an impractical man. He is simply a courageous, honest man, and therefore an impractical man. He will not palter with his conscience. "I believe, and therefore I speak," said an apostle; and Professor Fawcett might take this for his motto. Mr. Fawcett delivered a brave speech upon this poor-law business. With great diagnostic skill he examined the pauperism fester; and he recommended sharp surgery for its cure. This will make him unpopular with lazy, improvident paupers; but the industrious poor, who have to keep these idle, thrifless persons, ought to award him praise. Some people think that Mr. Fawcett is at times unnecessarily obstructive—and it may be so; but "e'en his failings lean to virtue's side." His obstructiveness has done good service. But for that obstructiveness, many a common and open space would have been lost to the people. Let the grumbler at Brighton, if there be any, ponder this. There is no borough in the kingdom more ably and faithfully represented than Brighton.

THE COMMITTEE who have conducted the musical performances in Victoria Park during the past fifteen years announce that the season will commence on Sunday, the 21st inst., the performance to begin at 5.30 p.m. The band is supported by voluntary contributions, hire of seats, and sale of programmes.

THE INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION OF 1872.—At the last meeting of her Majesty's Commissioners for the Exhibition of 1851 it was resolved to announce the following as the classes of manufactures to be exhibited next year:—Cotton; jewellery; musical instruments; paper, stationery, and printing;—(a) paper, card, millboard, (b) stationery, (c) plate, letterpress, and other modes of printing; machinery for the group; raw materials for all the above-mentioned objects.

PASSPORTS TO FRANCE.—Earl Granville has made public some correspondence which has passed between M. Jules Favre and Lord Lyons relative to the re-establishment of passports between France and England. M. Favre points out that when passports were abolished the French Government reserved the right to re-establish them if it should become necessary. It has now become necessary, in the opinion of the Government of Versailles. "I have, however," says the French Foreign Minister, "directed the agents of my department to relax in practice, as far as may be possible, the application of this regulation. Thus it is understood that complete immunity will be accorded in the French Chanceries to all travellers whose state of indigence may be proved, and that only a fourth part of the fee shall be required from labourers furnished with a regular certificate. This reduction, and that of half the fee, shall be equally applied to persons who, without being able to plead poverty, may be able to prove that they are not in a position to pay the entire fee." M. Favre adds that the English Government, is of course, at liberty to impose like restrictions upon French citizens as the Government of France imposes upon Englishmen. Lord Lyons, in reply, says that he has lost no time in bringing M. Favre's communication under the notice of the English Government; but as it only reached him on the evening of the 3rd inst., though dated April 28, he hopes that due consideration may be shown for British travellers who may arrive in France in ignorance of the new regulation.

Imperial Parliament.

FRIDAY, MAY 5.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

The House read the third time and passed the bill for the protection of life and property in Westminster and adjoining districts. Their Lordships also read the County Justices Qualification Amendment Bill the second time, and passed the Promissory Oaths Bill through Committee.

During the sitting the Foreign Secretary made the gratifying announcement that despatches received at the Foreign Office confirmed the news of Dr. Livingstone's safety.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Mr. W. H. SMITH moved for the appointment of a Royal Commission to inquire into the administration of the poor law in the metropolis.

The President of the Poor Law Board declined to give his assent to a proposal which he regarded as superfluous, the Government believing themselves prepared to take the matter in hand, and into their councils men who, like the mover, felt an interest in the subject, and were capable of giving valuable suggestions and assistance in improving the system.

MONDAY, MAY 8.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

THE UNIVERSITY TESTIMONIAL BILL.

The House having gone into Committee on this bill, and the two first sections having been sanctioned,

The Marquis of SALISBURY moved a new clause requiring all tutors, professors, &c., to make a declaration that they will teach nothing contrary to the truth as revealed in the Old and New Testaments. The noble lord asserted that the question raised by this bill was not one between Christians and Dissenters, but one between Christianity and infidelity; and drew a terrible picture of the extent to which the belief of young men at the Universities might be disturbed or destroyed unless some account were taken for the soundness of the Christianity of their teachers.

The Earl of KIMBERLEY, in opposing the clause, denied the existence of the perils to which Lord Salisbury had referred, and asserted that, if any did exist, they would not be in any degree met by this proposal; and then were the points upon which the subsequent discussion mainly turned.

The clause, which was supported by the Bishops of Gloucester and Lincoln, Lord Carnarvon, Lord Brancaster, and Lord Harrowby, was opposed by the Archbishop of York and the Bishops of Oxford, Carlisle, and Worcester. When their Lordships divided, it was carried by a majority of only 57 to 66—a result which was warmly cheered by the supporters of the Government. An amendment moved by Lord Salisbury on clause 3, excepting the headships of colleges from the operations of the bill, was accepted in a majority of 875 to 49. A third amendment, providing that no statute or ordinance requiring membership of the Church of England as a qualification for the holding of any office shall be repealed, except by the authority of Parliament, secured a majority of only 2, being carried by 56 to 54. Some other alterations were made in subsequent clauses, but no more divisions were taken; and, after passing the bill through Committee, the House advanced various measures a stage.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE.

Mr. Gladstone commenced the "slaughter of the innocents" by withdrawing the Local Government and Rating Bills, and that portion of the Licensing Bill which relates to licensing proper, and not to the regulation and jurisdiction over public-houses. The Home Secretary, at the instance of Mr. Ward-Hunt, assented to the suggestion that the several bills on the table should be referred to a Select Committee. The Income Tax Bill was then rapidly passed through Committee, the operation occupying about three minutes in the performance.

THE ARMY REGULATION BILL.

When the House was asked to go into Committee upon the Army Regulation Bill,

Colonel ANSON, in a speech of considerable length, moved a resolution affirming that, if the purchase system is to be abolished, in order to secure the authority of the State over the officers of the Army and in justice to the officers themselves, the regulation value of their commissions ought to be at once returned to them.

Colonel BARTLETTI seconded the motion.

Captain VIVIAN resisted the proposal on the ground that the bill as it stands does complete justice to the officers, and that to yield that which was asked by the gallant member for Bewdley would saddle the country with an unnecessary burden, and would, at the same time, give to officers far more than that to which they are entitled.

The debate which ensued, and lasted up to midnight, was of a highly technical character, and to the unprofessional auditor presented few features of interest. Colonel Knox created some amusement by asserting that Sir H. Storks, after putting an end to our connection with the Ionian Islands and destroying Governor Eye, was about to destroy the profession of which he was himself member; and when General Herbert, failing to discover in the measure a provision the existence of which had been asserted by Mr. Cardwell, flung the bill across the table to that right hon. gentleman; and the Secretary for War, after reading the words which he had in his mind, cast back "the print" to his adversary with a gesture of triumph, there was a ringing cheer from the Treasury bench, and a good deal of laughter from all parts of the House. The result of the division was the rejection of Major Anson's amendment by a majority of 63—250 to 187. Major Arbuthnot moved the adjournment of the debate, and, a division having been called, the motion for adjournment was negatived by a majority of 63—243 to 178. Thereupon Major Jarvis moved the adjournment, and this was rejected by a majority of 96—233 to 127. The proposal to adjourn the debate was renewed by Colonel Knox, but met with no better success, being negatived by a majority of 102—207 to 105. Two more divisions were taken, with similar results; and then Mr. Gladstone gave way, and allowed the debate to be adjourned till Thursday.

TUESDAY, MAY 9.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

The House read the Workshops Regulation Act (1867) Amendment Bill the second time, and passed through Committee the Presbyterian Church of Ireland Bill and the Primitive Wesleyan Methodist Society of Ireland Regulation Bill.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Notice was given by Sir C. Adderley of a bill to consolidate the laws relating to the public health and local government. The Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs announced that the Government had that day received a telegram to the effect that a treaty with the United States had been signed at Washington, though he was not yet in a position to publish its contents; and the Postmaster-General stated that the inquiry into Sunday labour in the Post Office was to be at once commenced, and that it would be conducted by Lord Dalhousie, Sir G. Grey, and himself.

CHURCH ESTABLISHMENTS.

Mr. MALL, in moving a resolution declaring that it is expedient at the earliest practical period to apply the policy initiated by the disestablishment of the Irish Church to the other Churches established by law in the United Kingdom, assured the House that he had taken up this question for the gratification of no sectarian bigotry, but solely from a desire to advance the social, moral, and religious interests of the whole country. He undertook to show that the relation in which the Churches of England and Scotland stand towards the State are condemned alike by reason and experience, and ought to be put an end to as speedily as possible. The speech in which these views were developed, and which occupied about an hour and a half in delivery, after carefully distinguishing between the original idea of a State Church and the present position of the Church of England, dealt temperately but exhaustively with the injustice which the establishment inflicts upon Dissenters, and still more upon "absentees"; the social mischief which it creates, or at all events encourages; and the injury which it does to the Church itself, by cramping its energies, restraining its liberty, and secularising its character.

The motion, which was seconded by Mr. J. D. LEWIS, a Churchman anxious to secure more liberty for the Church, was opposed by Mr. Bruce, on the part of the Government, as inopportune in point of time and unjustifyable by any legislation of past years; and by Sir R. Palmer, because, among other mischiefs which disestablishment would work, it would weaken or destroy the Church which is "the very inheritance" of the poor both in rural parishes and in the poor populous districts of great towns and cities.

This argument was met by Mr. H. Richard by reference to the case of Wales, where the neglect of the Ministers of the Establishment had been repaired by the exertions of Nonconformists and of Churchmen acting according to the voluntary principle.

Dr. BALL denounced the half-heartedness with which Mr. Bruce had opposed the resolution, and asserted that the Church will be defended as long as the defence does not imperil the existence of the Ministry, and will be abandoned as soon as its desertion may secure their safety.

Mr. LEATHAM, after taunting Mr. Winterbotham with a supposed change of opinion or weakening of Liberal sympathies in consequence of his entering office, turned upon Mr. Bruce, and, in reference to his utterance, expressed the hope that the time might never come when it should be asked, "How long are we, a party of Dissenters, to follow a Cabinet of Churchmen?" Some members of the Liberal party he described as, though Radicals in appearance, only in reality "oiled Whigs."

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the right hon. gentleman defended on the ground that it is the recognition by the State of religious opinion in the community; and he asserted that his only opponents are the Dissenters, as the descendants of the Puritans, certain revolutionary philosophers or philosophical revolutionists, and an ultra-conservative party within the Church itself. If we were governed by logic, he admitted that the disestablishment of the English Church must follow that of the Church of Ireland; but as, fortunately, we are governed by rhetoric, he saw no difficulty in escaping that conclusion.

Mr. GLADSTONE stated that the Government intended to oppose the motion; and while declining to institute any inquisitorial examination of the minds or consciences of his colleagues, announced that he did not intend to limit that opposition to the present moment; nor was he aware that any members of the Government were disposed to treat this as a question of detail with regard to which they were ready to change their opinions to-morrow. In reply to Mr. Leathem's attacks, he admitted that the leaders of the Nonconformists might shatter the general fabric of the Liberal party; but denied that that was a consideration which ought to operate upon the minds of the Ministry in determining the course which they should pursue with regard to any great national institution.

Mr. Miall's reply was confined to a few sentences. At its conclusion the House divided, and the motion was rejected by a majority of 245–374 to 89.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 10.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

REGISTRATION OF VOTERS.

Mr. H. R. BRAND moved the second reading of the Registration of Parliamentary Voters Bill, the object of which is to provide for the more perfect and satisfactory registration of Parliamentary voters in counties and boroughs by making the union the area of registration; constituting the Clerk of the Assessment authority the registering officer, and giving him more power, and imposing upon him larger duties than are now exercised by the overseers, as well as by improving the qualification and increasing the pay of revising barristers. The rejection of the measure was moved by Mr. A. PELL, and in the course of the discussion, which turned mainly on questions of detail, Mr. BRUCE cordially accepted the measure, and expressed the opinion that this was just one of those cases in which independent members might most advantageously assist the Government in the work of legislation; and Mr. HARDY as decidedly pronounced against the bill. When the House divided, the second reading of the bill was carried by a majority of 16–151 to 135; and some amusement was caused by the Committee being fixed for so late a day as July 19.

Sir C. DILKE'S Registration of Voters (No. 2) Bill, which applies exclusively to boroughs, was read a second time without a division, and the Committee was fixed for the same date.

EXEMPTION OF CHARITIES FROM RATING.

The Charities Exemption Bill, moved by Mr. MUNTZ, was opposed, on behalf of the Government, by Mr. STANSFIELD, who, charging the promoters of the measure with being desirous of snatching a division, created such an angry feeling on the part of the House generally, and of several Ministerialists particularly, that, when a division was taken on the motion of the right hon. member that the debate should be adjourned, the Government found themselves beaten by a majority of 33, in a House of 200 members.

THURSDAY, MAY 11.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

FINANCIAL CONDITION OF INDIA.

Their Lordships were principally occupied by a discussion arising out of two petitions from merchants and others of Calcutta and Madras, complaining to the bills, that the people of India were not properly represented in the Council, and praying for the appointment of a Royal Commission to inquire into those grievances, and to apply a remedy.

The Marquis of SALISBURY, who presented those petitions, said he could not go so far as to move for a Royal Commission, but he most earnestly recommended the subject to the serious consideration of the Government.

The Duke of ARGYLL defended generally the policy of the Indian Government, and said it would be impossible to appoint a Royal Commission that would have to inquire into almost every subject connected with the internal administration of the country.

Several bills were advanced a stage.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE ARCHBISHOP OF DUBLIN.

Mr. CONOLLY asked, with reference to recent statement of the right hon. gentleman the member for Buckinghamshire, that the "pious and venerable Archbishop of Dublin had been excommunicated by the Protestants of Ireland," whether he would qualify that expression, so as not to produce the painful impression it had done among the Protestants of Ireland, and more especially in the Synod now sitting in Dublin.

Mr. DISRAELI would always be willing to qualify any expressions he might have used in the flow of debate which were shown to be erroneous or exaggerated. The appeal made to him, however, was somewhat vague with respect to the word "excommunicated." He did not suppose that any gentleman would have accepted it as meaning that the offices of the Church had been denied to the venerable prelate. He used the word in the figurative sense, and what he meant to say was that since the dissolution of the connection between Church and State in Ireland he had witnessed with a feeling of some dismay that the section of the Church of Ireland advocating exclusive Protestant views had not treated the Archbishop of Dublin in that manner which his friends had expected or desired; but that, on the contrary, they had censured his conduct; and, so far as words were concerned, had repudiated his authority. He made that statement upon the authority of public documents, and what he believed to be authoritative reports of the proceedings. He begged to state that his expression did not refer to the great body of the Irish Church, and especially not to the Synod. He sympathised with the Synod in their arduous labours, and he thought they had shown great ability and much discretion. The time of the Synod was extremely valuable, and he trusted that in future they would not waste any of it in passing precipitate resolutions.

INCOME TAX AND INHABITED HOUSE DUTIES BILL.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER intimated that, as some doubts had been cast on the course of procedure and the good faith of the Government with regard to the income tax, he would withdraw it and introduce another *de novo*.

ARMY REGULATION BILL.

After a lengthened debate the House went into Committee, and immediately afterwards the Chairman reported progress and obtained leave to sit again.

PHARISEES, ANCIENT AND MODERN.—Sunday-trading prosecutions are not a new thing in society. They were quite common eighteen hundred and fifty years ago. Little Jew boys used to be tempted to buy sweets on their way to the synagogue, by poor women who were obliged to do anything to "turn an honest denarius;" and some of these women were set upon, taken before the magistrates, and, in default of payment of fines, put in prison. The prosecutors in those affairs were ministrants in the Temple and the synagogues; but they could perceive no greater inconsistency in allowing the money-changers to open on the Sabbath, with the object of enabling people to obtain the requisite small coins for the collection, than their successors now perceive in employing doorkeepers and porters, and dealing with milkmen and cabdrivers, while preaching the absolute sanctity of the day. On one occasion, however, the Rev. Bee Wright's of the time heard a discourse which made their ears to tingle, as well it might, for it contained, with other unpalatable things, these words:—"Woe unto you, Scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye devour widows' houses, and for a pretence make long prayer; therefore shall receive the greater damnation!"—*West London Advertiser*.

WASTED LABOUR AND EXPENSE.—An influential manufacturer of Bolton (Mr. T. THOMAS), in a very able letter in the *Bolton Guardian*, remarks:—"The actual workers of the kingdom work every day of the year to pay the interest of the national debt, twenty-six minutes; for the maintenance of our armaments, twenty-eight minutes a day; for the cost of collecting the taxes, five minutes a day; for the relief of the poor, nine minutes a day; for local taxes, nine minutes a day; for the cost of civil government, twelve minutes a day. Adding these together, we find our labourers working every day of the year one hour and twenty-nine minutes for the payment of our national and local taxes. Very nearly two thirds of this time is occupied in producing the cost of our war system—that is, of our national debt and our armaments. Let us remember we are at peace with all the world. Our military and naval expenditure under the Duke of Wellington, in 1835, was £11,600,000. In 1852, the year before the Canadian War, it had been increased under various pretences to £14,873,000. It is now twenty-eight millions, and certainly our military authorities were never less able than now to assure us of our safety from invasion. On the contrary, their last device for frightening old women is to talk about the best plan of fortifying London. I look round upon the nations of the world, and I find there never was a period in the memory of man when these islands were less in danger of an invasion. Thank Heaven! the French boy, by the help of which our military alarmists have been able to increase our armaments from less than twelve millions to twenty-eight millions a year, is at last put to rest; and I suppose nobody any longer fears a French invasion. As to Russia, half our present fleet could blockade the Baltic in a fortnight, and the Black Sea in a month. We are in no danger from the lesser European Powers. There remain Prussia and Austria. These Powers have no fleet which could for a moment stand against half our naval force. There is, then America: and America tells us distinctly that, although she has unsettled disputes with us, she does not intend to go to war with us. She follows out this announcement by disbanding 4000 out of the 30,000 troops which form her army. Her present navy is quite insignificant. Under these circumstances, I consider the expenditure of twenty-eight millions a year on armaments to be not only wicked, but foolish; and not only a crime, but a blunder. I would,

therefore, not a day longer be the prey of military panic-mongers; but, instead of increasing, I would at once reduce our expenditure on armaments at least twenty millions a year. This would be equal to a reduction of the hours of daily labour by twenty minutes a day, or exactly two hours a week all the year round, to say nothing of the effect of twenty millions a year being saved in taxes and permitted to remain in the pockets of taxpayers."

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SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

THE QUEEN held a Drawing-room, at Buckingham Palace, on Tuesday afternoon. Her Majesty has been pleased to express her intention to open the new St. Thomas's Hospital in the latter part of June.

THE PRINCE OF WALES presided, on Monday night, at a dinner at the Freemasons' Tavern, in aid of the funds of the Masonic Institution for Girls. There was a large muster of the brethren.

PRINCE CHRISTIAN, attended by Lieutenant-Colonel G. G. Gordon, presided, on Wednesday evening, at the dinner given at the Cannon-street Hotel on behalf of the German Hospital.

THE MARQUIS OF LANSDOWNE AND LORD ROMILLY have been elected trustees of the Reform Club, in the places of the late Earl of Clarendon and the late Earl of Radnor.

MRS. GOSCHEN has issued cards of invitation to a large number of naval officers and their families for a ball, on the night of the 17th inst., at the official residence of the First Lord of the Admiralty, at Whitehall.

CARDS OF INVITATION have been issued for a concert at Buckingham Palace on the 15th inst., and a state ball on the 19th inst.; also for an afternoon breakfast party on June 23, a concert on the 21st, and a ball on the 27th.

MR. MONCREIFF, formerly M.P. for Glasgow and Aberdeen Universities, and now Lord Justice Clerk, is to be created a Baronet. The Astronomer Royal and Colonel Scott, R.E., have been nominated Knights Companions (Civil) of the Bath, in recognition of their services in respect to the International Exhibition.

MR. JOHN LAMBERT, the well-known Poor-Law Inspector, is gazetted to the distinction of C.B.

THE METROPOLITAN BOARD OF WORKS have accepted the tender of Mr. William Webster for the construction of the Chelsea Embankment. The contract price is £133,950.

THE TOWNHALL at St. Helens was destroyed by fire last Saturday afternoon.

J. C. CHAMBERLAYNE, ESQ., has presented the sum of £2000 to the town of Stow-on-the-Wold for the purpose of a water supply, and a subscription has been set on foot by the inhabitants to testify their gratitude in some suitable and lasting manner.

ALL FOREIGNERS ENTERING BELGIUM by the French frontier must in future be provided with passports.

THE COURT OF QUEEN'S BENCH has discharged the rule for a new trial in the case of "Goldschmid v. Spottiswoode," in which the husband of Jenny Lind had obtained £300 damages for libel.

MOST OF THE FACTORY WORKERS AT OLDHAM who have been out on strike for the Saturday half-holiday commenced work on Tuesday morning. There was no disturbance. The strike is now regarded as virtually ended upon the terms proposed by the employers, of closing at one o'clock on Saturdays.

THE JOINERS AT PRESTON have been agitating for a cessation of work at noon on Saturday, on the ground that it is a privilege which has been long enjoyed by other branches of the building trade. The employers have, however, resisted the demand.

THE CREDITORS OF MR. BUCKSTONE, of the Haymarket Theatre, have agreed to accept a composition of 5s. in the pound. The unsecured debts are returned at £10,552, while the debts fully or partially secured amount to £5540.

THE ENGINEERING FIRMS of Newcastle, Gateshead, and the district on Saturday passed a resolution refusing the request for a reduction of the hours of labour from fifty-nine to fifty-four hours per week, conveyed to them in a communication from the acting committee of the Nine-hours' League. If the men persist, it is hinted that a general lock-out is probable.

A MAN NAMED THOMAS WELCH, aged thirty-five, went, last Saturday night, to the room of his brother-in-law, Edward Marr, aged nineteen, at Mile-End, and fired a loaded pistol at him, wounding him severely in the head. Marr is now in the London Hospital in a very precarious state, and Welch has absconded. There had been repeated quarrels between the two, and Welch had threatened to put a bullet into Marr's head.

EDMUND WALTER POOK was again brought up for examination at the Greenwich Police Court last Saturday; but, as the police had not completed their preliminary investigation, no evidence was taken, and the prisoner was again remanded for a week. The remains of the murdered girl were interred on Monday.

THE TREASURY RECEIPTS in the first five weeks of the financial year amounted to £6,008,220, and the expenditure to £8,005,780. In both cases the totals were slightly under those of the corresponding period of last year. The balance in the Bank of England on the 6th inst. was £3,989,339.

THE CORPORATION OF BEVERLEY, after taking legal opinion on the subject, find that they cannot escape payment of the cost incurred by the Bribery Commission. The amount which the Treasury call upon the borough to repay is £2570; and counsel having informed them that there is no loophole by which to escape the responsibility, the council have resolved to make a call at once upon the several parishes within the Parliamentary borough.

THE POLISH EMIGRATION has lost one of its oldest and most respected members, Major Cornelia Piotrowki, who expired on the 30th ult., at the advanced age of seventy-eight. The deceased was a distinguished officer, and served under the Emperor Napoleon I., and in the War of Independence against Russia in 1830-1. He had obtained the cross of the Legion of Honour and the Polish military cross for his great bravery, having received seventeen wounds in various battles.

A SINGULAR ACCIDENT happened on the London and South-Western Railway on Sunday night, near Exeter. The door of a carriage in which a stoker off duty was riding flew open, and he was thrown against the signal-wire with such force as to stop the working of the signal. Fortunately, the accident was seen, and the train stopped. The poor fellow was very seriously injured, and lies in the hospital in a precarious state.

A NUMBER OF POOR-LAW GUARDIANS were discussing the question of education for pauper children in a town not many miles from the metropolis, when one of the company, a representative of the agricultural interest, gave it as his opinion that they (the paupers) did not want much education; to teach them to milk was enough. A division of the board shortly took place, when the ayes and noes were equal.

A MAN NAMED BROOMFIELD was brought up, on Tuesday, at Bow-street, charged on his own confession with setting fire to the premises of Messrs. Heal, extensive furniture-dealers in Tottenham-court-road. The prisoner said he had no particular motive for what he had done, but that the devil tempted him at about three in the morning to get over the gate and utilize a box of lucifers which he had in his pocket. He was remanded.

AGNES NORMAN, who is in custody on suspicion of having murdered the infant daughter of a tradesman at Newington-butt, was again placed in the dock upon that charge, at the Lambeth Police Court, last Saturday. Some further evidence was taken affecting this particular accusation, and another remand was granted, in order that the Treasury might inquire into other cases of a similar character which had been brought under the notice of the police.

A SHOCKING CARRIAGE ACCIDENT occurred at Macclesfield last Saturday afternoon. Mr. Firth, surgeon, was driving in an open carriage, with his wife, daughter, and a young lady visitor, when the horse took fright and dashed the carriage to pieces against some iron posts. All the persons in the vehicle were thrown out with great force, and Mr. and Mrs. Firth died subsequently of concussion of the brain. The young ladies, though greatly shaken, are in no immediate danger. Mr. Firth has been in practice in the town between thirty and forty years, and was much respected.

THE GOVERNMENT have resolved not to oppose the motion of Mr. ANDERSON, one of the members for Glasgow, for a return showing the names of all present members of the House of Commons in receipt of public money, whether in the form of salary, pay, pension, or allowance of any kind, with columns showing the names of the constituencies for which they sit, the amounts they receive, and the name of the office or nature of the service for which the money is paid.

THE LONDON SCHOOL BOARD, on the motion of Mr. C. REED, M.P., has resolved publicly to announce that, on and after June 1, it will be ready to receive applications from managers who may wish to transfer their schools to the board upon a specified basis. It was also decided to institute an inquiry into the charitable or other endowments of the London school district, in order to ascertain the amount which ought to be applied to the augmentation of the school fund.

TWO LOVERS were charged at the Wandsworth Police Court, last Saturday, with having attempted to drown themselves. The relatives of the female prisoner having interdicted her marriage, she and her sweetheart resolved to die together. Accordingly, they threw themselves into a pond on Clapham Common, but the cries of the young woman speedily brought assistance, and both were rescued. The magistrate remanded the prisoners, and intimated his intention of committing them for trial.

COLONEL HENDERSON, the Chief Commissioner of Police, issued a "order" on Tuesday night, inviting the superintendents of the various divisions of the metropolitan police to send in the names of pensioners whom they consider suitable for employment by the London School Board in looking after the gutter children of the metropolis. The salary of the School Board will commence, it is stated, at 30s. a week.

MR. E. T. SMITH, of the Surrey Theatre and Highbury Barn, has filed a petition in the Court of Bankruptcy for liquidation.

GENERAL DOMBROWSKI.

The name of General Dombrowski has been so widely known as that of the commander of the Communist army of Paris, that a Portrait of the man who has attained to that dangerous honour will not be unacceptable to our readers.

There was a General Dombrowski among the chiefs of the great army of the First Napoleon; that army which suffered at Moscow, and sustained defeat after defeat to Leipsic and the places where the French were outnumbered and beaten before the abdication of the Emperor. The present General, however, is not, as far as we have heard, any immediate relative to the Polish General of that time. He is one of the leading foreigners to whom the Commune has been compelled to intrust the work they have been unable to find French officers to accomplish. Cluseret (a naturalised American), Garibaldi, and Dombrowski have been the men to whom they have looked; and Dombrowski was called to lead the troops to action at Asnières and Neuilly. He was formerly a distinguished officer in the Russian Army of the Caucasus, but fought for the Polish cause in 1863, when he threw his whole energy into the struggle for independence, and was at last seized by Russian police and imprisoned at Warsaw, whence he was afterwards removed to Moscow. The governor of the prison, however, had in his service a man who had served with Dombrowski in the Caucasus, and with the aid of this generous fellow, who procured for him a disguise, he contrived to escape, and eventually effected the liberation of his wife also, when they both sought refuge in France. There he was subject to the accusation of having circulated forged notes of the Russian Bank; but, after inquiry, he was acquitted by the jury. The Commandant, who is below the middle height, possesses great energy and courage. He has devoted himself to military studies, and has published a book, written when he was twenty years of age, on new modes of armament. Altogether he seems to be just the kind of man of whom the Commune stood in need; and we shall probably hear more of his operations ere the conflict be closed.

AN INTERVIEW WITH ROSEL.

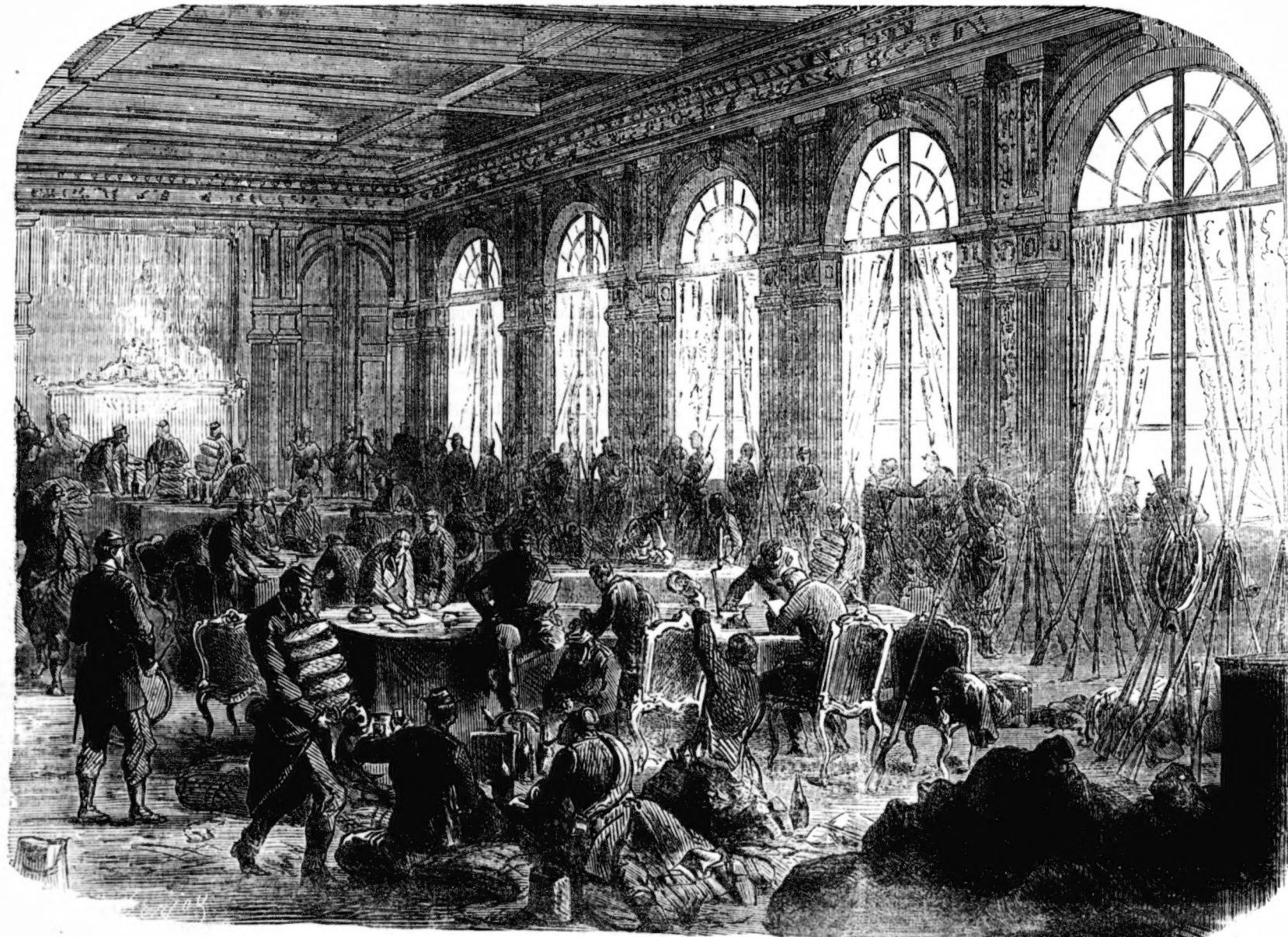
Paris, Monday.

As Rossel, the new Minister of War, is evidently a man of mark, it will be as well to say a few words about him, for he is certainly not only in the most important post in Paris but is also the most remarkable character that events have yet brought forward during the present movement. In my very first visit to the War Office, at the outbreak of the Communal insurrection, I was introduced to Colonel Rossel. He was then in plain clothes, and

I recollect thinking, "Why, this is a Prussian staff officer in disguise." The same eyeglasses; the same quiet, self-confident look; the same deliberate, thoughtful way of speaking (which the French take as a proof of a dull mind, but which is really only a proof that the speaker is weighing his words); and, lastly, even the same knowledge of English which is so common among the officers of Von Moltke's staff. I see that the correspondent of an English paper has taken it into his head that Rossel bears a strong resemblance to Napoleon I. when a young Lieutenant of artillery. As my recollections do not run so far back as the end of the last century, I can only judge by the portraits we possess of the First Bonaparte; and certainly, if we are to believe them, there is much the same resemblance between Rossel and Napoleon

it to shake hands, and on my expressing my regret to see him obliged to keep his bed, "Oh! I am not much hurt," he replied, "only I am a little stiff, and one is so tired at present that an excuse to keep in bed is welcome." I don't know why, but I could not help thinking of the pictures of the famous levées of Louis Quatorze. There was the room dating from the century of the Grand Monarque, the gilded chairs, the heavy silk hangings of the same date, and to complete the illusion an aide-de-camp with a Court sword received each person who desired to speak to the Minister. I was asked to sit down for a few minutes, as important despatches had come in. When these had been disposed of there came two newly-named inspectors of ambulances. "You will take care not to accumulate too many men in one place; never have more than 200 beds together; that has been

GENERAL DOMBROWSKI, COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE COMMUNE FORCES.



THE COMMUNE AT THE HOTEL DE VILLE, PARIS: THE SALLE DU TRÔNE.—(SEE PAGE 301.)

the other ordinary features of the human face are common to both, and there the resemblance begins and ends.

Louis Nathaniel Rossel, who is of Scotch extraction, his mother's maiden name having been Campbell, was born at Saint Brieue, in the department of Côtes du Nord, in Brittany, in 1841, so that the man who is master of the destinies of Paris, and to a certain extent of those of France, is barely twenty-seven years of age. He is of middle height, slight, and wears a short, fair beard. He looks far more like an Englishman or an American than a Frenchman, and his manners do not belie his appearance. He is as cold and reserved as an Englishman, with the prudence of a Scotchman, and also, unless I am greatly mistaken, as 'cute as a Down-Easter. He speaks English remarkably well, and makes no secret of his anxiety to introduce American smartness and dislike for red tape into the French Administrations, and is as great an abhorner of formulas as Mr. Carlyle himself. When I asked him recently why he sat as president of the court-martial in plain clothes, and not, as is usual in such courts, in uniform, he smiled, and said (in English), "Oh! you know, we aim at being rather Yankees in our ideas, and especially in our detestation of forms and ceremonies; we don't want to sit in wigs and gowns, like the English Judges. If I happen to be in uniform I go to the court-martial in uniform, if I am in plain clothes I do not change them." Since his elevation to the position of Delegate for War, however, Rossel has thought it necessary to don the uniform of a General, but he has taken care to have it of the simplest and most unpretending pattern possible. After having written these lines I went to the War Office to hear the latest news, and to inquire how the War Minister was, after his recent fall from his horse. I found General Rossel in his bedroom—a large one, hung with dark blue silk—filled with aides-de-camp, clerks, and officers of all ranks. The General himself was in bed, with an English newspaper in his hand. He dropped

it to shake hands, and on my expressing my regret to see him obliged to keep his bed, "Oh! I am not much hurt," he replied,

"only I am a little stiff, and one is so tired at present that an excuse to keep in bed is welcome."

I don't know why, but I could not help thinking of the pictures of the famous levées of Louis Quatorze. There was the room dating from the century of the Grand Monarque, the gilded chairs, the heavy silk hangings of the same date, and to complete the illusion an aide-de-camp with a Court sword received each person who desired to speak to the Minister. I was asked to sit down for a few minutes, as important despatches had come in. When these had been disposed of there came two newly-named inspectors of ambulances. "You will take care not to accumulate too many men in one place; never have more than 200 beds together; that has been

the great defect of the Paris ambulances hitherto." The doctors tried to harangue, but Rossel said quietly, with a bow, "Citoyens, je vous salue," and the medicos were obliged to take the hint, for he turned to his aide-de-camp and said, "What next?" "The correspondents of the London — and the New York — request that they may have their news before six o'clock, so as to catch the evening train." "Send me the Chief of the Information Bureau." He came. "Let this request of these correspondents be attended to." Then, turning to me, he said, "My dear Sir, you see how busy I am; come back and take breakfast with me in half an hour, we can then have a quiet talk alone."

When I returned I found the breakfast, which had evidently been brought in ready cooked from a neighbouring restaurant, on the table. Whatever accusation can be brought against the War Minister, that of wasting the money of the Commune in riotous living will certainly not hold water. We had an omelette, beef-

steak, slices of a leg of mutton, asparagus, cheese, coffee, and *petit verre*. The whole washed down by *vin ordinaire*. I should rather have liked to have seen one of Napoleon III's Ministers sitting down to such a breakfast. A pile of English newspapers, and a late number of the *Fortnightly Review*, with Mr. Fred. Harrison's article on the Commune, lay beside the General's plate. He laughed heartily at an article, speaking of his striking resemblance to the first Napoleon. Then he asked about the Prussians; had I any confirmation of the news that Bismarck had given notice of his intention to interfere. "No? Ah! I do not think it probable they will meddle with us so long as we let them alone." Then he began to discuss some of the events of the late campaign, showing the most perfect impartiality in his appreciation of the value of the Prussian army. We did not have the dining-room to ourselves long, for before the first course had been cleared away an orderly

came in with a note—someone wanted to see the General. It was a bargain for the purchase of chassepots. "Good, I take them at 75f. a piece, 20,000 to be delivered. I have already seen the contract. There, it's a bargain. Give me the contract to sign." "Let me read over the contract," said the astonished dealer, quite unused to such a rapid and un-French way of doing matters. "As you please," said Rossel, quietly opening an English paper, while the disgusted merchant read his contract for my benefit, for Rossel evidently did not listen. Next came in a member of the Finance Commission, and Rossel told him that he had been making a number of necessary purchases—horses, muskets, sandbags—a million of the latter. And so on, and so on. I swallowed my coffee, wished Citizen Rossel and his aides a hearty good morning, and bowed myself out, thanking my stars that I was not ever likely to be Delegate for War of the Commune of Paris.—Correspondent of "Daily News."



"NOT AT ALL TO THE POINT."—(PICTURE BY B. BAUTIER.)

"NOT AT ALL TO THE POINT."

SUCH is the title of one of those humorous pictures of the modern German school, of which we publish an Engraving—pictures in which the fun is somehow made more piquant by the actors in the scene being represented as belonging to the period of about a century ago. It would be a curious speculation, if we had time to enter into it, why humorous paintings often gain so much greater appreciation from this association with the time of pigtailed, periwigged, powder, patches, and shoe-buckles. There may be something in the costume, the artificiality of which gives point to those foibles, assumptions, or contredétempo which leaves us room to laugh harmlessly at each other; or it may be that the dress denotes an era not too remote for genuine everyday interest, and yet far enough back to give it the slight unreality which should distinguish the lighter fancies from actual work, and give us an opportunity for quizzing personal peculiarities without identifying the person.

Now, it requires a very great artist indeed to make us stand

and chuckle in front of a picture of domestic life in Greece or Rome. A good many of us doubt whether there was much laughter in "classical times." Everything, we imagine, was statuesque, grand, and heroic, or rugged, strong, and semi-barbarous. The artist who could show the "heroic age" in its everyday aspect, who could bring himself away from the animated-marble idea, and let us see such fun as may have bubbled up in old Greece and Rome, would not, perhaps, achieve much success. Even Tadema couldn't do it hopefully; for the fun itself was, perhaps, mostly of a grim sort. There was too much cruelty for popular humour. This is our vague general notion; and yet, after all, the motive of the story told in our Illustration is as old, or older, than the remote classical times. Substitute papyrus roll for the book, put a long robe, a girdle, and sandals on the respectable old gentleman in the chair—which chair should, by-the-by, be a wooden couch or a carved tripod; let the maiden be decked in loosely-flowing drapery, and her hair enwreathed with amaranths; for the small paned window substitute an outer court, with lions and a fountain; inscribe the

doorstep with Greek characters; let the sunlight fall through an open roof; place the young Narcissus with his lute under the flickering shadow of a plane-tree or a myrtle in an opposite court where he is half concealed by a Doric pillar; and then—well, then the fun would have seemed to go out of the scene somehow. Whatever may be the cause, whether Greek accident, or the Latin grammar, or the severe seriousness of all who even speak of things classical, we are not able to take in the whole living human meaning of the thing. Why, the very pith and marrow of this story is the notion that the old man will presently close his book and betake himself to his library, or perhaps fall asleep; that there will be some coy signalling; that the lovers will meet; the true point of the old, old story be achieved; and that in years to come Corydon and Phillis—he, wrinkled and with a more trembling finger; and she comely, with a fair old age—may celebrate their golden wedding by playing as a duet the tune heard as a solo from that window on the opposite side of the street. Such is our artist's meaning, at all events; for in another picture he consummates the story, and flute and harpsichord are then in concert.

THE LOUNGER.

IT is May; and, as usual, thousands of rural clergy—State and Dissenting—are now in town. At the House of Commons, on Tuesday, they swarmed and buzzed like bees. They had come to hear the debate upon Mr. Miall's motion aent (as the Scotch say) the disestablishment of the English Church. Most of them were, of course, disappointed; and, after waiting an hour or so in the central hall, had to depart—vexed enough, you may imagine. Those who got into the gallery had what to them must have been a great treat. Miall's speech was a wonder. You will be surprised that I, who have heard all our great speakers and become quite blasé, and never go in to listen to a speech unless I am professionally obliged, should use so strong a word; but it is not too strong. One of the most charming characteristics of the speech to me was the entire absence of the House of Commons conventional style, a slippish language which we know so well. And then, how clear, and compact, and convincing was the reasoning! how apt and beautiful the illustrations! and how earnest—even solemn, evidently—was the speaker! But enough of the speech; most people have read it or will read it.

Of course, the motion was defeated by a large majority. The numbers were—ayes, 89; noes, 374. Mr. Miall thought that he would have ninety—with the two tellers, he had ninety-one. This is not a bad beginning, considering that the Liberals are in office. If they had been in Opposition the minority would have been largely increased—certain members now Ministers of the Crown would have voted for the motion, as would many others who always support the Government—I mean, of course, a Liberal Government. Ten years ago a motion to disestablish the Irish Church would not have been supported by fifty members, and now it is disestablished. But do not suppose that I believe that the English Church will be disestablished in ten years. I have no such sanguine notion. It will take half a century for public opinion to sap the foundation of the English Church, and, perhaps, a much longer time. The Irish Church was an oppressive grievance; the English Church, as Gladstone said, can scarcely be said to be a grievance. It was forty years ago or somewhat more, when no Dissenter could hold municipal office, or sit in Parliament, or be married but at church. Church rates, too, are abolished. It is true that some University disqualifications remain; but before the close of the Session these will be gone, and then, as far as I can see, the only grievance will be a certain loss of social position endured by Dissenters. But this grievance is not now heavy; indeed, it is fading away. Dissenters go to Court; there are Dissenters in Brookes's Club; and I suspect that if a Dissenter can dower his daughters handsomely he may find plenty of young Lords ready to marry them. The abolition of the State Church will be only a political or philosophical thing; and for mere theories Englishmen do not very earnestly fight. Still, its turn will come. It represes thought, as all State churches do and must do; and in these days of mental activity no person or institution can do that without peril.

I have all along prophesied that Bruce would have to withdraw his Licensing Bill, and now it is, or rather is to be, withdrawn. We are to have another bill introduced to regulate public-houses; but, unless that be a very simple affair, he will have great difficulty in passing it. Goschen's Local Government and Rating Bill is also condemned. What spirit of infatuation came over the Government? They had a great work to do, a work quite as hard as the abolition of the Irish Church—to wit, the Army Regulation Bill, which abolishes Army purchase. What madness, then, it was, with this stupendous business on their hands, to rouse against themselves by the Licensing Bill all the brewers, maltsters, distillers, and publicans; and by the Local Government and Rating Bill all the landed interests! Neither of these bills could possibly be carried, as the veriest tyro in politics could have told them. And then, to crown all, by that foolish match tax they contrived to make themselves ridiculous. A very potent weapon against a Government is deserved ridicule, perhaps the most potent of all weapons. "When your King," says one, "comes to be the object of laughter, his end is nigh." By-the-way, I have not mentioned the increase of 2d. to the income tax. It is well that Gladstone has such a very large majority. With half this majority he could not have stood his ground. But with only 50 majority would he have been so reckless?

Supposing—it is a large supposition to make—that there were half a dozen people in England who looked upon the Home Secretary as a thinker, it was unnecessary to undecide them so rudely as Mr. Bruce did by his speech of Tuesday in answer to Mr. Miall. That speech contains the following almost incredible passage:—

My hon. friend compared the progress of science with the progress of theology, and asked what would have been the progress of science if science had been bound by statutes and Acts of Parliament. The two things are not analogous. Science is essentially progressive. Science is always expanding; and, however long the world may last, we may fairly assume that the end of science will never be reached. But theology is, in its very nature and essence, stationary. This was greeted with cries of "Hear, hear!" but it is utter nonsense for all that. "The relations of the Deity and man are the same as they were a thousand years ago," says Mr. Bruce. Even this is not true, for it is the basis of the relation which alone remains unchanged. But theology changes, and must from the nature of things change, just as much as science, and for similar reasons. Above all, the relation of theology as a thing communicated or taught to other things taught is in constant flux. Mr. Bruce must have heard of what is called the Patriarchal dispensation, the Mosaic dispensation, and the Christian dispensation; and he must also know that all Christians believe in a subsequent or Millennial dispensation. But he must likewise have heard of the venerable Pilgrim-Father Robinson, who said—"I am persuaded the Lord hath yet more light and truth to break forth from his word." At all events, the Liberal party can have little to hope, and may have something to fear, from a Minister who thinks that, because the final relation of the Infinite to the finite is of necessity unchangeable, therefore theological truth can be formulated for State use. The other day Mr. Bouvier ran his head against Positivism, to his own discomfiture; now we have the Home Secretary of a Cabinet in which there are men of the culture of Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Lowe, and Mr. Stansfeld using this precious argument in favour of a State Church. Is there a "lower deep" still in this "lowest deep?"

Lord Salisbury and his Conservative friends have once more vindicated their right to the title of "the stupid party," which Mr. Mill sometime since bestowed upon them. Anything more stupid than their action on the University Tests question it is difficult to conceive; and, did one not bear in mind the motive for that action—to preserve the best of the University emoluments for Church of England clergymen—and the desperate straits to which defenders of clerical monopoly are driven, the course pursued would be altogether unintelligible. Viewed in the light of facts, however, the Tory policy is comprehensible, though excessively foolish. The headships of colleges are lucrative posts, and are generally, if not always, filled by clergymen: hence the proposal to exempt headships of colleges from the operation of the University Tests Abolition (or Modification) Bill. Then the positions of tutor, assistant tutor, dean, and lecturer on divinity are also worth looking after: hence a new test is proposed for those who aspire to fill these offices. And such a test! A declaration is to be made—bless you! it is not a test; it is only a declaration—that the declarant shall inculcate nothing "contrary to the teaching or Divine authority of the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments." But before this declaration can apply, several things have to be settled. First, what are the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments? That point itself is in dispute among professing Christians; and till it is settled, it is impossible to say what part of the Scriptures have the "Divine authority." Are we to take the present authorised version?

Its authenticity is questioned by many eminent Christians; it is rejected by the whole Roman Catholic world; and is even now under process of correction. When the two companies of Scripture revisers have completed their labours, shall we be in any better plight? Is it not next to certain that the "Divine authority" of their version will be disputed too? Second—Supposing the question of "authority" settled, who is to decide disputes as to the "teaching" of Holy Scripture? Interpretations will continue to be as varied as are the minds of interpreters, just as they are now; and who are to be the judges of orthodoxy, or of the true teaching—that is, meaning—of the Scriptures? Third, further supposing questions of orthodoxy settled, who is to punish heretics, should any such arise? Lord Salisbury provides no tribunal to judge of offences against the teaching and authority of the Scriptures, he enacts no penalty against such offences, and he proposes no machinery for checking or preventing their commission. He trusts to the honour and conscience of teachers, he says. Might he not as well trust to honour and conscience, without exacting a declaration which, being nugatory and unnecessary, must be insulting and immoral? A law without a penalty is a nullity. Here we have proposed a law without a penalty; and how can we expect it to work? The new test-declaration will be an offence to sensitive consciences; while men of obtuse moral perceptions will make it—and break it—without scruple. But, then, it may help to fend off secular teachers from competing for University offices, and so leave a larger share for clergymen: which is exactly the object at which Lord Salisbury aims. Of a piece with this absurdity is the further proposition that "chapel shall be obligatory; but no one shall be required to attend chapel who objects to do so." An obligation that everyone may disregard who chooses is about as sensible a thing as a declaration that cannot be defined and a law that cannot be enforced. But this condition, absurd as it may seem in itself, has a purpose too, and the same purpose as all the rest of Lord Salisbury's amendments: to bring grist to the clerical mill.

As chapel service is to be obligatory, it must be performed, whether it be attended or not; somebody must be retained and paid for performing it; and that somebody must be a clergyman of the Church. Do you perceive the drift of the thing now? It is not surprising to find the noble defender of monopoly utterly inconsistent in his statements and in his conclusions. A wave of infidelity, he says, has lately swept over Oxford, where, as he further alleges, the system of education tends to loosen all religious belief. Well, educators at Oxford are now subject to tests sufficiently distinct and definite in their terms, and if these tests have failed to keep out infidelity—have, in fact, permitted a system of teaching that loosens religious belief—is this new test—vague, indefinite, indefinable as it is—likely to be more successful? Of truth, the Conservative party, as represented by Lord Salisbury and those who voted with him on Monday night, continue the stupid party still; yes, and a selfish party too. But it is probably unnecessary to trouble ourselves much about these new restrictions on freedom of education at the Universities. Propositions in dispute between the two Houses of Parliament generally carry weight in proportion to the majorities that have supported them; and as Lord Salisbury's three chief amendments on the Universities Tests Bill were only carried by majorities of 5, 8, and 2, even in the House of Lords, the Commons need, and probably will, have no scruple in striking them out, and adhering to their decision in so doing. Mr. Gladstone at least is bound to do so, for as he refused to permit the bill to be amended in the Commons in one direction, he must decline to allow it to be mauled in the Lords in another.

THE LITERARY LOUNGER.
THE MAGAZINES, ETC.

"The Panic and its Lessons" is the title of an article in *Macmillan*, by Mr. E. A. Freeman, and a very good article it is. He states at the beginning that the article was written some time ago, but the statement was unnecessary. Mr. Freeman is in favour of a citizen army, and, naturally enough, he has a strong leaning to the German system. On the whole, however, his article is distinguished by a robust conscientiousness, which in these days is very rare. The story "Patty" is still the best thing in the magazine. Mr. Frederic Wedmore, whom I remember as the author of a pleasant one-volume novel, writes a very readable paper on Ingres, the French painter; and there are, from another pen, some interesting "Souvenirs of the Campaign of the Loire." The paper on "Darwinism and Religion" is not bad, but it might have been dispensed with. Intelligent people have got into a downright habit of believing that science cannot really undermine religion. In the majority of minds one may fear that this proposition either involves some ambiguity, or else is a mere truism. A large proportion of scientific writers in every age—I do not include Mr. Darwin—have been employed in the task of insisting that all we know is the sequence of events and things, and that of any Power that may exist behind these sequences we neither know nor are entitled to presume anything whatever. As a matter of politeness, scientific men of this order have been in the habit of saying, "We do not, and cannot, know these things; but we leave your imagination free, and we will wink at poetry and sentiment, and religious matters, as long as we possibly can." And, in fact, when the majority of well-read people say that science cannot undermine religion, we may guess that what they really mean is that there is some natural basis for what is commonly called by the name of religion, only that it is *x*, or an unknown quantity. Now, from unknown to unknowable is a very short step (in such matters), and from unknowable to unimportant is only another short step. So that, in fact, Nescience may be taken to mean denial among the majority of those who make a gospel of it. I am here expressing no opinion, except one, which is directed to the cultivation of a fair and honest understanding.

The *People's Magazine* contains a most uncomfortable paper on scarlet fever. The medical essays in this journal are the very best I ever saw in any magazine. The writer of this paper, evidently a man thoroughly well read and well informed upon the subject, submits that scarlet fever is "the most dangerous malady of temperate climates." In 1854 cholera killed 10,754 people in London; but scarlet fever, in 1869-70, killed 11,000 Londoners; and the two epidemics of 1863-4 and 1869-70 slew 160,000 persons in England alone, while the total scarlet-fever mortality for the last ten years in England is probably not less than 250,000. It is all very well to exclaim with Frederick the Great, when his soldiers ran away, "Knaves! would you live for ever?" But scarlet fever kills the young in immense numbers, and it is, besides, the fruitful parent of disease of the kidney, deafness, and blindness arising from atrophy of the optic nerve. The writer mentions a family of four children who survived scarlet fever, of whom one was left quite deaf, while two have since become partially blind, and another wholly so. Then arises the question of the extraordinary infecting power of this disease, which lasts in full force for from eighteen months to two years in the clothes of the patient, articles of furniture, and so on. It is proved that, by rigidly adopting certain means of isolation, with other precautions, the disease may be confined to a single victim in a household; but the precautions needed are so rigid and so arduous that only very intelligent, experienced, and well-to-do people can be expected to carry them out. This is a doleful subject, and I only hope that these notes will not deter anyone from reading the *People's Magazine*.

The *Leisure Hour* and the *Sunday at Home* are both good numbers. These periodicals resolutely keep up their original tradition. Their literature is what is called evangelical, and the bonds are never relaxed. If John Newton or William Cowper were to rise from the grave and read the *Leisure Hour*, he would be quite at home, though some of the more strait-laced of the ancient set might object, perhaps, to the stories, simply because they are stories, and to the freedom (little as that is) with which topics of a purely secular character are introduced and handled. How-

ever, the periodicals are good for their purpose, and there is an end. The *Sunday at Home* this month gives an illuminated text,

One of the subjects which are coming more and more to the front is that of Patent Law; and the current is setting in strong question; but if anyone wants to make himself master, with but little effort, of the "Recent Discussions" of the subject, I can with confidence recommend him to a volume so entitled, with, of course, some additional words—namely, "On the Abolition of Patents for Inventions," and so on. This is published by Longmans, and is edited by Mr. Macfie, who has been at considerable pains in gathering together 350 pages of information and quotation upon the subject. There can be no better introduction to the whole question. And there is an index, which is extremely well arranged. Readers who have not tapped the subject will be surprised to find how strong a case can be made out against these monopolies.

THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

It is surely an astonishing thing that there are people in this great London of ours—capitalists, sensible, hard-headed men of business—who, in ordinary speculations, are most careful, but still consent to be rather rash when inoculated with the poison emitted from the footlights. It appears to me that there is a fascination so strange about a theatre that it warps the better and cooler judgment of a man. If this were not so, how could the Holborn have been reopened with such a programme, such management, and such artists? We are told that London is overstocked with theatres; that not half of those now open pay; that managers are at their wits' end to invent an entertainment which shall be striking and original. And yet we find the despised Holborn opening with a most inferior melodrama and a wretched burlesque. It is not as if the Holborn had not failed before. The best entertainment and the worst—in an artistic sense—have been tried. Mr. Barry Sullivan, with a first-rate company and with first-rate plays, lost a small fortune. Mr. Sefton Parry, aided by a writer of experience and popularity like Mr. Boucicault, and after many successes, has been compelled to put up his shutters; and yet Mr. Ross thinks he can turn the tide of fortune with a drama which would have disgraced an *East-End* adaptar, and with a burlesque so absolutely insane that there is not a chance for it even with the simply frivolous. If the drama were well put together, if it contained one good scene or one good effect, something might be made of it. But there is really nothing in it, and nothing badly acted is disastrous. On the first night the audience rose up in arms, and nearly hissed it off the stage. What has happened since I neither know nor care. That "Silence" could interest a single human being is simply impossible. The burlesque, called "Salammbô," opens with a kind of prologue, after the manner of "The Critic," but the bad prologue did not much assist the bad play. Like the drama, it was soundly hissed, and it took all the energy of Miss Roberta Erskine to dance away the hideous vulgarity of "Salammbô." I forgot to mention that in the drama there was one young lady who appeared to have great appreciation of the character intrusted to her, and who thoroughly and cleverly portrayed a hunted-down, broken-hearted wife—I allude to Miss Walton. The character was very small, but it was admirably done. With this exception, and the rough merit of Mr. McIntyre, no one of the company appears to have the faintest notion of acting.

Mr. Burnand has contributed a burlesque to the *St. James's*, which seems to be an improvement on his later works. He has taken the friendly hints given to him, and has toned down his extravagance. Mrs. Wood and her singing are the great features of the new entertainment, which is made additionally lively by the singing and dancing of Miss Caroline Parkes, Miss Chambers, and Miss Marian Inch. Those who like wild burlesques will, no doubt, enjoy "Poll and Partner Joe." Added to this, a pleasant revival is noticeable. Mr. Phaneuf's comedy called "Secret Service," has been revived for the sake of showing Mr. William Farren in one of his father's most popular characters—Michel Perrin. The result is a great and deserved success. This comedy will be much enjoyed.

There has been some discontent at the high prices charged at the *OPERA COMIQUE*, where the *Comédie Française* is passing its brilliant career. The programme given last week has been, in the main, repeated; the most important addition being that of "Mlle de Belle Isle," a comedy of the highest class.

The *CHARING CROSS* manages to run a very respectable third with little plays—one act, or two acts at the most—most efficiently played.

Mr. Sothern will really appear at the *HAYMARKET* to-night (Saturday); and a new extravaganza by Mr. Byron will be brought out the same evening at the *VAUDEVILLE*.

Mr. W. S. Gilbert promises "Great Expectations," at the *COURT*; and it is satisfactory to learn that the "Palace of Truth" is being translated into French, and will very probably be played by the *Comédie Française*.

The "Clandestine Marriage" is announced at the *PRINCESS'S* on Monday next; and a new drama by Mr. Watts Phillips is in active rehearsal. The theatre will close for a few weeks before it is produced.

1ST SURREY RIFLES.

Amateur dramatic companies, so long as they confine their efforts to the representation of *farcés* and domestic dramas, occasionally come off with flying colours; when their ambition induces them to soar higher, and attempt the performance of legitimate comedy or tragedy, they very frequently fail. The Dramatic Club of the 1st Surrey Rifles, as I have on several occasions remarked, is one of the cleverest clubs in London; but, of course, the members are not capable of playing any and every thing. In selecting Mr. Dion Boucicault's "London Assurance" for performance last Tuesday, the 1st Surrey amateurs committed an error of judgment, as the result unpleasantly proved. The parts, I have no doubt, had been thoroughly studied, and the piece had been sufficiently rehearsed, but still the performance was not satisfactory. It was dull and depressing. Ensign Fourdrinker's Sir Harcourt Courtly was an infliction: Sir Harcourt had no life in him. Corporal Macklin was fairly efficient as Dazzle; and Private Ruston was not bad as Charles Courtly. The other gentlemen were over-weighted. Mrs. Garton, with her merry laugh, as Lady Gay Spanker, and Miss Little Lancaster as Pert, endeavoured to infuse a little spirit into the comedy; but, despite their most praiseworthy efforts, it dragged dreadfully. Take my advice, gentlemen—stick to the pretty plays by Messrs. Craven, Halliday, and Byron, your old and tried friends.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN SCHOOL SOCIETY.—At the annual meeting of the British and Foreign School Society, on Monday, a report showing considerable progress in the prospects of the institution was read. Its adoption was moved by Lord Lyveden, and seconded by Mr. E. Baines, M.P., Earl Granville, M.P., and Mr. Pease, M.P., were also among the speakers. The Foreign Secretary, in referring to the Education Act, mentioned that the applications for school building grants within the past five months had been 3000 in number, as compared with 5000 applications during the previous thirty years. The grants were now ten times the amount required in former years.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH.—Last week the aggregate mortality in London and nineteen other large towns in the United Kingdom was at the rate of 25 deaths annually to every 1000 of the estimated population. In the metropolis 2251 births and 1522 deaths were registered, the former having been 50 below and the latter 47 above the average. Zymotic diseases caused 447 deaths, including 288 from smallpox, 17 from measles, 29 from scarlet fever, 4 from diphtheria, 36 from whooping-cough, 34 from different forms of fever (of which 7 were certified as typhus, 14 as enteric or typhoid, and 13 as simple continued fever), and 13 from diarrhoea. The mortality from smallpox is the highest recorded during the present epidemic. It is almost three times as high as the largest number returned in London in any week of the several outbreaks which took place between 1840 and 1870.

FINE ARTS.

EXHIBITION OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY.

SECOND NOTICE.

CONTINUING our rapid review of the great collection of paintings at Burlington House, we have to pass through the Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, and Seventh Galleries, and to note some of the most attractive pictures with which they are filled. Of the last 'escapes' of which there are several fine examples, and, indeed, few that are not excellent, the first that demands attention is Mr. T. Landseer's "Duke of York Passing into a Waterspout" (214)—a vigorous work, with bold effect. In "East Cliff, Dover" (218), a vigorous work, with bold effect. In "East Cliff, Dover" (218), Mr. T. Weber sends a nice bit of seacoast, but rather hard in treatment; and Mr. T. G. Linnell's "Summer Foliage" (219) is also less finely toned than is usual with his work, though it is admirable in finish. "Fishermen on the Beach—Scheweningen" (279), by Mr. R. Pritchett, is an excellent little picture, bold in treatment, and with fine distance. Mr. B. Foster's "Thames, near Eton" (280) is one of the most effective paintings in this room. In the *verso* of the gallery (the fifth) there are two or three remarkable works, among which, as a finely suggestive little bit, should be mentioned Mr. J. O'Connor's "St. Cloud, March 3, 1871" (375). A very grand and large work is "Mount Chimborazo" (368), by the late Mr. R. Mignot; and in the same room is a sweet, clear, English picture by Mr. R. Collinson—"Near Arundel" (420). Mr. W. L. Wyllie's "Rotten Row, Portsmouth Harbour" is an excellent bit of realism, recalling the time when the "brave old ships whose names are writ in story" were manned from "the Hold." Mr. E. Hayes sends a fine sea-piece (380), representing fishing-boats returning to harbour at Scarborough in a freshening gale.

In the next room (the sixth) Mr. C. N. Hemy has one of his admirable realistic pictures, so unspuriously truthful even in sordid details, and yet with the charm of art in them. It is called "The Great Limehouse" (435), and might hang up as a treasured possession in the chief cabin of many a master mariner. "A Bridle Path" (442) is a capital wood scene by Mr. P. Graham; and Mr. Lucas sends a "View in Surrey" (449), in which the corn-fields and the distant ridges of upland are very beautiful.

"On the Grand Canal, Venice" (462), by Mr. W. Q. Orchardson, is a relief from the usual Venetian pictures, since it represents very ordinary houses, plain, and without even so much as a porch or a colonnade at their unarchitectural doors, before which the green, rippling water, that forms the whole front of the painting, bears a single gondola, with a mother and child for passengers. Mr. V. Cole's "April Skies" (466) is in this room, as well as a fine cattle-piece by Mr. T. S. Cooper entitled "A Sedgy Brook" (493). Perhaps the finest effect of still-water in this part of the gallery is Mr. A. W. Hunt's "Goring Lock, on the Thames—Mid-day" (56), a work that should be particularly noted. Mr. B. Foster's "Bass Rock" (512) is a fine, vigorous piece.

In the next room (the Seventh) Mr. J. Brett has two large pictures of fine colour and almost metallic lustre—"The British Channel, seen from the Dorsetshire Cliffs" (522), with the rippling water all shimmering blue under the bright sky; and "Etna, from the Heights of Taormina" (545), a brilliantly-lighted landscape.

Two charming pictures are Mr. H. Moore's "Across the Common" (571) and Mr. Mote's "Leith Hill—Evening" (576); while Mr. G. Saint's "Strawberry Farm, Fulmer-common" (580) will attract by its artistic merit, without aid from startling effects.

The great picture here is Mr. J. Webb's large painting of "Cologne" (586), which is a fine work admirably executed, and with consummate management of light on the splendid architecture of the cathedral, which forms its background, while the river and its vessels are depicted with wonderful effect in front. A charming little picture full of significance, by Mr. C. G. Lawson, called "A Summer Evening at Cheyne-walk" (589), and Mr. Hook's fine painting of "Norwegian Haymakers" (590), full of the bright northern glare of light and clear colour,—conclude the landscapes in these galleries.

Retracing our steps, we begin the Fifth Room with "A Rainy Day" (348), by Mr. P. Graham—a picture which recalls some of the happy efforts of older masters who knew how to unite the power of painting landscape accessory action and figures which conveyed a natural and half-humorous incident. The scene is the exterior of a roadside farm; a group of people are standing under an umbrella; a boy is dragging the horses out of the driving rain; a dog is hunting out a frightened fowl which has sought shelter; and in the midst of the flood only the ducks are absorbed in quiet enjoyment. It is a picture to look and to laugh at.

Mr. K. Halswell's "Contadine at St. Peter's, Rome" (359) is fine in colour and composition, but gives one the idea of being painted only from the models who are always waiting for hire on the church steps. The old man, with his blanket on his shoulder and the round cakes of bread threaded on a string at his back, is a fine figure, and the brigandish peasant or ox-driver in front is well posed; the women, too, are just such as one constantly sees in "studies" of Roman subjects, but they tell no particular story.

"The Last Scene in the Gambler's House" (376), by Mr. G. Smith, is an attractive picture because of the implied incident. It represents a sale by auction in the dining-room of an old-fashioned mansion. In the distance, at the end of a passage, a woman and a child in deep mourning are being led from the house to the door, where a close fly is in waiting. Of course the interest of the picture is in the variety of detail and expression among numerous people attending the sale; but this interest might have been enhanced if the lot put up to auction had had a more obviously sentimental relation to the supposed story, though it is to be presumed that that lot is intended to be a portrait of the late gambler when he was a boy.

Two charming little pictures in this room should receive attention: one by Mr. J. Morgan, called "Tickle" (374), representing a little fellow just able to stand on a chair, from behind the back and through the bars of which his mother is making pretended attacks on his legs; and another, "The Lacemaker" (381), by Mr. W. H. Weatherhead. "Our Household Cares Intent" (394) is a pleasant picture by Mr. W. F. Yeate, representing a bonnie young wife in her poor cottage kitchen, busily peeling potatoes for dinner.

Mr. R. Thorburn's "Lady Jane Grey" (395) is a very carefully studied work, full of expression, intensified by the black lines of the solo figure. The unfortunate lady stands at a window of her prison in the Tower, whence she sees her husband taken to execution, one hour before her own death. Mr. F. Burn's other picture, "Winter" (414), representing a young girl in a long hooded cloak, hastening over the snow, seems to have been painted from the same model as the historical work. A strangely-humorous subject is that of Mr. J. MacWhirter, the title of which consists of the lines of the old song,

A great while ago the world began,
With hoy-toe tide and the rain.

It represents a driving wind and a sweeping shower of rain, on to the sea shore, where the big waves are tumbling on a beach occupied solely by a disconsolate donkey, while a starry bird is on the wing in the midst of the drift.

It would not be easy to indicate the attraction of this, which is handled with remarkable power and skill. It is of quiet fun and extraordinary expression. Mr. E. Newenham's "The Fisher's Knot" (426) represents a Scottish fisherman tying a line for a lad who seems to have sought

the face of the canny old fly-thrower and the concentration, confidence, and vanity of its expression would suffice to make a striking picture; but the hands of the man are full of meaning, and every detail is wrought out with Mr. Newenham's "Courtship" (431); and near it is Mr. H. T. Wells's picture of "A Rasper" (436), admirable in its realism and its dramatic pathos. The man whose stalwart form stands in the drift in the darkness; he whets his scythe is a true though

not an ignoble rustic, from the toss of his hair to the toes of his thick lace-boots. Mrs. Charron has sent one of her pleasant pictures of the Addisonian era (439), representing "Clarinda" of the *Spectator*, who has just come from a sale, and has her pleasure in her bargains saddened by her sympathy with those who have been compelled to part with their treasures.

The "Apple-Cart," by Mr. Opie, is a charming picture of a country lane wherein an old man and his daughter are selling their apples to some urchins. There is another apple-picture, called "The Old Apple-Room" (466), by Mr. F. Smallfield, a very nice little bit, representing one of the glorious old upper rooms of a country house, in which a little girl is gaily accompanying the servant-maid. Mr. G. F. Folingsby's picture of Lady Jane Grey's victory over Bishop Gardiner, who is retiring in a rage from his fruitless discussion, is powerful and dramatic in treatment, and well conceived in composition, while its colour is sober and not dependent for effect on the trickiness too common in modern historical painting. Mr. Heiblith in his "Spring" (453) has interpreted Teniers' lines in "Locksley Hall," by representing not a "young man's," but an ugly middle-aged man's, fancy heavily turning to thoughts of love. Mr. J. Gilbert's "Convocation of Clergy" is a well-painted picture, powerful and yet subtle in the expression of the assembled prelates. In "A Chapter from Pamela" Mr. G. H. Boughton sends a purely-painted and beautifully designed work. Two of the most charming of Richardson's fair admirers sitting reading amidst the flowers of a country meadow. Mr. J. Pettie's "Scene in the Temple Garden" (501), representing the plucking of the red and white roses during the dispute between Somerset and Plantagenet, has already become one of the popular works of the exhibition, and is finely suggestive in the power of the faces of the two principal actors.

"Waiting to be Christened," by Mr. J. A. Vinter (517), is one of the first attractions in the Seventh Room, and is a charming representation of a blooming young mother, in a broad straw hat and a pretty lace shawl, holding her baby on her lap as she sits near the font in a church.

"The Milkmaid's Song to Isaac Walton" (555), by Mr. W. Field, is sure to charm a number of appreciative visitors. It is so real; the milkmaid is so truly a simple village lass, who, standing a little awkwardly, with her hands clasped before her, shouts her rustic ditty; the face of the benevolent old philosophic angler; the half critical, but yet admiring, pupil; the clear, fresh sweetness of the English meadow; and the sense of rest and homely idyllic influences—all combine to make this painting one of the most covetable in the gallery. With this and Mr. F. Leighton's classical, graceful, and tenderly beautiful "Greek Girls Picking Up Pebbles by the Sea" (567), we must close our notice for this week; but only after directing attention to that sad, powerful, affecting picture, by Mr. F. Holl, called "No Tidings from the Sea" (595), a work which is the property of her Majesty.

THE PEEL COLLECTION OF PICTURES.

The room in the National Gallery which contains the pictures purchased from Sir Robert Peel is now opened to the public. It is that which leads immediately into the large room at the extreme east end of the gallery, which will be remembered as the principal room of the old Academy Exhibition. The famous "Chapeau de Paillot"—a portrait of a young lady of the family of Lunden, in Antwerp, by Rubens—takes the place of honour. The fine work of Wilkie—"John Knox preaching before Mary, Queen of Scots"—hangs at one corner of the room, and the large Hobbesian landscape at the opposite corner. A large work by Rubens, "The Triumph of Silenus," hangs at the other end of the room, above the portrait of Dr. Johnson, by Reynolds. The beautiful "Snake in the Grass," by Sir Joshua, is a prominent picture on one side of the room; and there is the Robinetta, and several other portraits by Sir Joshua, notably one of Boswell and one of Admiral Keppel. The smaller pictures by Cuyp, Du Jardin, Vandervelde, and the exquisite examples of Metz and the Mieris, with Paul Potter, Teniers, J. Steen, Terburg, Wouvermanns, Gerard Dow, De Hooge, Coque, Ruysdael, Netscher, are arranged with excellent taste, and are seen to the greatest advantage. There is, however, no catalogue at present to be had.

MAY.

The following sonnet, full of genuinely-natural though's, sweetly expressed, which appears in the May number of the *Bulwer University Magazine*, is from the pen of a gentleman whose poetical effusions we had the pleasure of noticing with commendation some time ago. Perhaps our readers may remember the extracts we then gave from a little piece called "Chatterbox."

I lean above the easement, and behold
Lime and laburnum wet with glancing showers;
I breathe the freshness of moist garden mould,
And dainty odours from cool drooping flowers.
Mute birds sit peering from thatched cottage-eaves.
Or, taking wing unto their favourite bower,
Scatter bright raindrops from green sparkling leaves.
And yonder, happy as the summer hours,
Beautiful Elsie, with her curls of gold,
Trips, singing praises of sweet floral May.
I hear the bleating of the fleecy fold,
Loud lowing of sleek kine; and in my joy,
The man is dwindled to a rosy boy,
Laughing in chorus with the laughing day.

R. C. F. HANNAY.

A KISSING WAGER.—Kissing is said to go by favour, and it is therefore only proper that it should not become the prize of mere brute force. A young man at Worcester, the other day, made a bet that he would kiss fifty girls going down the High-street of that borough. It is certainly a lengthy and very fine thoroughfare, and Worcestershire beauty is proverbial, and they are also stalwart dames to boot. The bold adventurer had not proceeded far when he was successfully resisted and handed over to the police. On being brought before the magistrates they sentenced him to three weeks' hard labour for his impudence.

MR. MIALL'S MOTION.—In the division upon Mr. Miall's motion on Church disestablishment, the following members of the Government voted in the majority:—Mr. Ayrton, Mr. Bruce, Mr. Cardwell, Lord Castlerosse, the Attorney-General, Mr. Dove, Mr. Grant Duff, Lord Enfield, Lord Ortho Fitzgerald, Mr. Forster, Mr. G. Fortescue, Mr. Gladstone, Mr. W. H. Gladstone, Mr. Goeben, Lord Hartington, Mr. Hibbert, Mr. Shaw Lefevre, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Stanfels, Sir Henry Storks, and Captain Vivian. No member of the Ministry was in the minority. Mr. Baxter, Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen, Mr. A. W. Peel, Mr. Winterbotham, and the Lord Advocate of Scotland did not vote.

STATE OF TRADE.—The Board of Trade returns for April show less favourable results than those given for last month; the declared value of our exports being £16,848,412 against £17,335,470 in April, 1870, and £15,621,475 in the corresponding month of 1869. The decrease in cotton yarn is 7 per cent, and in cotton manufactures 6 per cent. Among the free imports the principal change is, as compared with April last year, an increase in wheat, entirely from Russia, and a diminished supply of every other kind of grain, as well as of flour. There is an increase of about 25 per cent in the import of cotton from British India and the United States. In the list of duty-paid articles entered for home consumption there are some very unfavourable changes. Cocoa, coffee, fruit, tea, tobacco, and wine have been taken in smaller quantities, while sugar and spirits show a slight increase. The value of imports for the month was £29,584,942 against £28,129,545 in April, 1870.

CHURCH DEFENCE.—A counter movement to the agitation for the disestablishment of the English Church is being commenced in Birmingham. The first of a series of meetings of the "Friends of the Church" was held there on Monday night. The Rev. F. S. Dale, leading Churchman, presided. The following resolutions were passed:—First: "That in view of the open attempts now being made for the disestablishment and disentailment of the Church of England, this meeting considers it desirable that a society should be formed having for its main object the defence of the Church as by law established against the misrepresentations of her opponents." Second: "That this meeting recognises the urgent need of Church reforms, especially with regard to the sale of new presentations, the ecclesiastical courts, and sequestration of benefices, and believes that these reforms must be vigorously sought by those who associate for the protection of church defence."

OBITUARY.

THE MARQUIS OF WESTMEATH.—George Thomas John Nugent, eighth Earl and first Marquis of Westmeath, in the Peerage of Ireland, and one of the representative Peers for Ireland, died on the 5th inst. The deceased Marquis, who was the only son of George Frederick, seventh Earl, by his first wife, Marianne, eldest daughter of the late Mr. James St. John Jeffreys, of Blarney Castle, in the county of Cork, and niece of John, Earl of Clare, sometime Lord Chancellor of Ireland (which marriage was afterwards dissolved by Act of Parliament). He was born at Clonyn, in the county of Westmeath, on July 17, 1785. He was educated at Rugby, and was at one time a Captain in the Coldstream Guards, with which regiment he served in the expedition to Egypt under Sir Ralph Abercrombie in 1801. He succeeded to the family honours and estates on his father's decease, in December, 1814, up to which time he bore the courtesy title of Lord Delvin. He was advanced to the marquise by George IV. in January, 1822, at the coronation of that Sovereign. He took an active part in opposing the concession of Roman Catholic emancipation. He also voted steadily against the repeal of the Test Act; and at the time of the first Reform Bill of 1832 he conducted himself as a "Tory of the Tories." His opposition, too, to the Maynooth Grant from time to time was very violent; and it is almost needless to add that he was one of the strongest opponents of the Disendowment and Disestablishment of the Irish Church. In fact, to every liberal and enlightened measure of progress and improvement the late Lord Westmeath offered the most constant opposition. He was Lord Lieutenant and Custos Rotulorum of the county of Westmeath, and was for many years Colonel of the Westmeath Militia. His Lordship was three times married—first, in May, 1812, to Lady Emily Anne Elizabeth Cecil, second daughter of James, first Marquis of Salisbury, from whom he was separated. She died at her apartments in St. James's Palace in January, 1858, and a few days afterwards Lord Westmeath married a Miss Jarvis. This union, however, proved anything but a happy one, and it was dissolved by the intervention of Sir Creswell Cresswell. He married, thirdly, in 1864, Elizabeth Charlotte, second daughter of the late Mr. David Verner, a relative of Sir William Verner, who survives him. His Lordship had by his first wife an only daughter, Lady Rosa Emily Mary Anne Nugent. She married, in 1840, Colonel Fulke Southwell Greville, of Clonyn, in the county of Westmeath, who was elevated to the British Peerage as Lord Greville in November, 1869. The Marquise of Westmeath has become extinct, and, in default of nearer male relatives, the ancient Earldom of Westmeath, which dates from 1621, has passed to his Lordship's very distant cousin, Mr. Anthony Francis Nugent, of Pallas, in the county of Galway, a Roman Catholic gentleman of high standing and position in the west of Ireland, who was born in 1805, and married, in 1829, Annie, daughter of the late Mr. Malachy Daly, of Ifaford, in the county of Galway, by whom he has a numerous family. His Lordship's father was commonly styled Lord Riverston; but the title, having been conferred on his ancestor, Thomas Nugent, Lord Chief Justice of the Court of King's Bench in Ireland, by James II. after his abdication, has never been acknowledged by "Ulster King of Arms."

LORD GARVAGH.—The late Charles Henry Spencer George Canning, Baron Garvagh, of Garvagh, in the county of Londonderry, in the Peerage of Ireland, who died in Dublin on Sunday last, was the eldest son of George, first Baron, by his second wife, Rosabelle Charlotte Isabella, eldest daughter of the late Mr. Henry Bonham, of Tintern Park, Berks. He was born March 18, 1826, and succeeded to the Irish honours and estates in the counties of Londonderry and Cavan on the death of his father, in 1810. His Lordship married, June 1, 1851, Cecilia Susan, only daughter of Mr. John Huggles-Brise, of Spain's Hall, Essex, and Cavendish, Suffolk, by whom he leaves issue two sons—the Hon. Charles and Hon. Conway Canning. The former, born in June, 1852, succeeds to the barony. The deceased nobleman was appointed Lieutenant in the 10th Dragoons in 1846, and afterwards exchanged into the 7th Dragoons, and in 1851 retired from the Army. His Lordship became Captain in the West Essex Militia in 1853, and was a magistrate and Deputy Lieutenant of Londonderry.

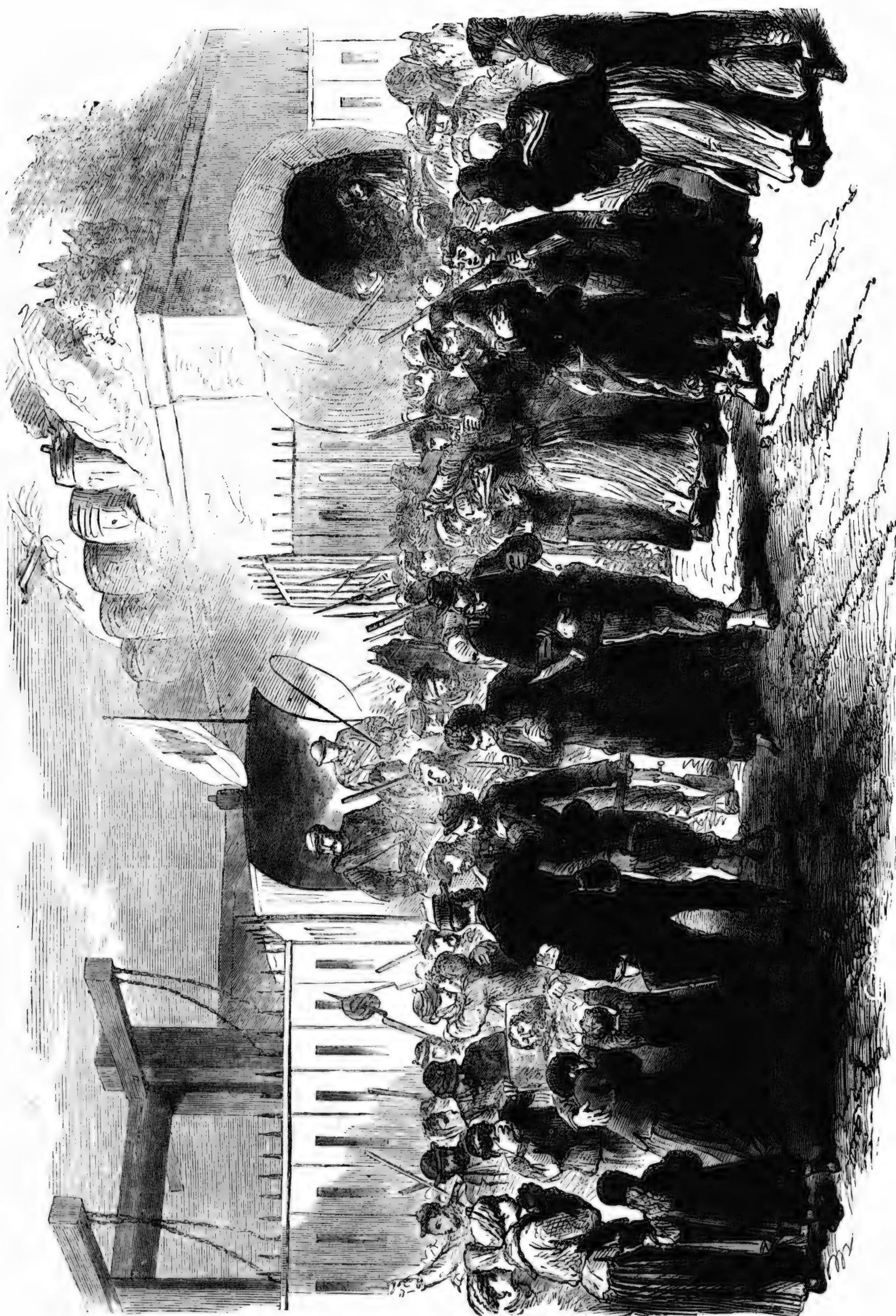
LADY DENMAN.—The Right Hon. Lady Denman died, very suddenly, on the 25th ult., at Stoney Middleton, Derbyshire. The deceased lady, according to Debrett's "Peerage," was the daughter of the late Rev. Thomas Roe, by Catherine, youngest daughter of the late Captain Elphinstone, R.N., Rear-Admiral in the service of Russia, and married, in 1829, the present Lord Denman. Her Ladyship dies without having had issue.

ADMIRAL ARBUTHNOTT.—Admiral Sir Alexander Dundas Young Arbuthnot, K.C.B., died on the 8th inst., at his residence, Shenstone Hall, Nuneaton. This gallant officer, says "Debrett's Knightage," was born in 1796, entered the Royal Navy in 1805, and, after serving through the various grades of the service, became a Vice-Admiral in 1854, and a retired Admiral 1863. In 1827 he married Catherine Maria, daughter of the late Rev. C. Eustace, and sister of Mr. Charles Staniford Eustace, claimant of the Viscountcy of Baltinglass, by whom he had issue a daughter, married to Major Wollaston, of Shenstone Hall, Leicestershire.

MAJOR-GENERAL JOHN DOUGLAS, C.B.—Major-General John Douglas, C.B., commanding the Cavalry Brigade at Aldershot, was found dead in his bed on Wednesday morning. The gallant officer had long served in the 11th Hussars, and succeeded the Earl of Cardigan in the command of the regiment. For some time he was on the staff at head-quarters as Assistant Adjutant-General of Cavalry, and was appointed to his command at Aldershot in January last. He served in the Eastern campaign of 1854-5 in command of the 11th Hussars, including the affair at Bulganak, battles of Alma, Inkermann, and Balaklava, and siege of Sebastopol. For his gallant services he was made a Companion of the Order of the Bath, a Knight of the Legion of Honour, and had received the Turkish medal. He entered the Army as Cornet in June, 1829; became Lieutenant in October, 1833; Captain, May 11, 1839; Major, Nov. 11, 1851; Lieutenant-Colonel, June 20, 1854; Colonel, June 20, 1857; and Major-General, March 6, 1868.

MR. JAMES YATES, F.R.S.—The death of Mr. James Yates, M.A., F.R.S., took place at his residence, Lauderdale House, Highgate, on the 7th inst. Although better known of late years as the chief and liberal promoter of the International Association for the introduction of the Metric System of Weights and Measures into this country, he was at all times accessible, and ready to impart information to others from his varied stores of knowledge. He always took an active interest in the proceedings of the Royal Society. He was also an influential member of the Geological Society, and of other learned and scientific bodies, by whom, as well as by a large circle of friends, his loss will be much regretted.

ORPHAN WORKING SCHOOL, HAVERSTOCK HILL.—The hundred and thirteenth anniversary festival of this great and admirably managed orphanage was held at the London Tavern, on Wednesday evening—Mr. John Kemp Welch, the treasurer, occupying the chair. At the conclusion of a very excellent banquet—at which many ladies were present, and the service of which was so orderly and quiet as to deserve special reference—the chairman referred to the history of the charity, and its first formation by a few gentlemen at the George, a hundred and fifteen years ago. The great progress of the institution since that time was evinced by the presence of more than 300 children, whose attractive appearance and fresh young voices added to the pleasure of the evening. The Rev. Robert Moffatt, the venerable African missionary, addressed the meeting, and told the children some of his interesting experiences, including one or two lion stories. The secretary, Mr. Joseph Soil, announced a goodly list of contributions to the institution, which is much in need of support.



THE CIVIL WAR IN FRANCE : THE GARRISON OF FORT ISSY RETURNING INTO PARIS.

ILLUSTRATIONS OF THE CIVIL WAR IN FRANCE

OUR Artists have this week again furnished us with a number of sketches illustrative of incidents of the Civil War in France.

ARMING THE MONTMARTRE BATTERIES.

The first of these goes back a little in point of time, and represents a scene that occurred shortly after the installation of the Commune, and when the enthusiasm for that body was still in full force. Batteries were erected on the heights of Montmartre, intended to reply to the cannonade of the Versailles guns without, as well as to resist the possibility of an eruption of the Regulars into the city. Guns of various calibre were appropriated for the purpose, and amongst them several mitrailleuses, faith in the efficacy of which is still strong among the Parisians. Indeed, so strong was this faith that, though military men knew these pieces were of no use for long ranges, the populace insisted upon having some placed in position; and men and women harnessed themselves to the carriages and dragged the weapons up to the spots where they thought them likely to be most effective. This scene is depicted in the Engraving on page 292.

BARRICADE-BUILDING IN THE PLACE VENDOME.

While this was going on at Montmartre, other parties were at work barricade-building in the Place Vendôme at the foot of the famous column which the Commune has doomed to destruction, but which at last accounts was still standing. The process of constructing barricades has already been described in our columns; so we need say nothing further at present, save that the unlucky National Guard in the hands of the termagant in the middle of the scene, we may suppose, was one of those skulkers who liked better to look on than to work, and whose conduct excited the ire and contempt of all, but especially of the women and the *gamins*, or "street arabs," as they would be called in London. We suspect this "refractory," as such skulkers have come to be called, will in future take care to assume a virtue if he have it not, and at least make believe to work when the eyes of female patriots are upon him. Stay! another thought strikes us. Perhaps the gentleman had gone a playing at Revolution without permission from the "white sergeant," and is now about to be taken home "with a flea in his ear." Our artist has forgotten to state the precise facts; so our readers may adopt whichever explanation they please.

GENERAL CLUSERET.

Next in order is a Portrait of



THE CIVIL WAR IN FRANCE: INSURGENTS PUTTING THE GATE OF NEUILLY INTO A STATE OF DEFENCE.

General Cluseret, who a few days ago, as Minister for War, was the most potent personage in Paris, but who is now a captive within the gloomy walls of the prison of Mazas. Full particulars of the life of the General and of his sudden arrest have already been given in our Numbers for April 29 and May 6. Cluseret, it may be remembered, is not the only one of the Generals of the Commune who have been imprisoned—Bergeret had preceded him to Mazas, and as Bergeret has been released and is again installed in a prominent military command, possibly Cluseret's turn to get upon the topmost spoke of the wheel of fortune may come round once more—that is, if M. Thiers does not make good his oft-repeated threat of entering Paris too soon for an opportunity to arise. Cluseret has not yet been brought to trial, so the exact nature of the charges against him are not known; but he is accused of too much ambition, with a desire to make himself Dictator, and even with having bargained for a large sum of money to betray the city into the hands of the Versailles troops. The general belief is, however, that none of these charges are well founded, and that the late Delegate for War's crime is being inconvenient to other members of the Commune.

TAKING PRISONERS INTO PARIS.

The Federals, as they prefer to call themselves, have not had many opportunities of "bringing prisoners home" to Paris; but a few such chances have been vouchsafed to them, and one such incident is depicted in the Engraving on page 293. In one of the many skirmishes near Châtillon, some prisoners belonging to Line regiments were captured, and were marched into Paris under the charge of National Guards, who were not a little proud of their capture. It is to the credit of the Communists, however, that some parade and a good deal of crowing over their captives were the worst indignities they inflicted; a degree of moderation which there cannot be a doubt was not practised by their opponents at Versailles, where prisoners have been several times grossly ill-used, and it is alleged even shot in cold blood.

THE COMMUNE AT THE HOTEL DE VILLE.

We have in a previous number (see ILLUSTRATED TIMES, April 29) published an engraving showing the grand staircase of the Hôtel de Ville in the hands of the Communists; and we now place before our readers a view of the great Salle du Trône, or Throne-Room, in the civic palace while occupied by the members of the Commune, their attendants, aides-de-camp, and guards. And a motley and tumultuous scene it is. How the



STATE OF PORTE MAILLOT AFTER ITS BOMBARDMENT BY THE BATTERIES ON THE LEFT BANK OF THE SEINE.

hearts of Haussmann and the functionaries of the Second Empire would recoil from the desecration to which the scene of their grandeur has been subjected by the Revolutionists!

THE RETREAT FROM ISSY.

Perhaps the most striking of our Illustrations is that on page 300, which represents the return into Paris of the garrison of Fort Issy after its first evacuation by the Federalists, some days ago, when its then Commandant, Mégy, deserted his post and a panic seized upon the garrison, who fled in a body into Paris, where they were received with a welcome little fitted to the misconduct of which they had been guilty. They had the grace, however, to take their wounded with them, one of whom, recognised by his family, makes a prominent figure in the scene. One artilleryman, it is said, alone remained at his post and continued to point and fire the guns as best he could till the arrival of the troops sent by the authorities in Paris to recapture the fort. His gallantry, however, availed to save the place for a short time only, for it has now been captured by the Versaillais and its guns turned upon its neighbour, Fort Vanves.

PORTE MAILLOT AND NEUILLY.

The Engravings on page 301 represent kindred subjects—the one depicting the efforts made to place the Neuilly Gate in a state of defence and the other the condition of Porte Maillot after it had been battered for weeks by the guns of the besiegers on the left bank of the Seine. And sadly knocked about Porte Maillot has been, while the gate of Neuilly has fared little, if any, better. Should either of these gates be selected for the entrance of the Government troops into Paris, it will, by all accounts, be the defences behind them, not the gates themselves, that must be depended upon to afford means of resistance. The state to which Porte Maillot is reduced conveys a vivid notion of the damage the capital of France has received from the hands of Frenchmen.

MUSIC.

The début of Mdlle. Marie Marimon at Drury-Lane Theatre is the principal operatic event of which we have to speak. Mdlle. Marimon, though new to the English lyric stage, is very well known on those of Paris and Brussels. She has played with success at the Opéra Comique and the Athénée of the former city, and, we believe, at the Théâtre Monnaie of the Belgian capital. But, as her name was little known here previous to its appearance in Mr. Mapleson's prospectus, the advent of the lady herself caused little stir. We might venture to say that a poorer audience never assembled on the first night of a new prima donna than that which less than half-filled "Old Drury" on Thursday week. But the audience, though few, were fit; and quickly discerned in Mdlle. Marimon an artist of rare attainments. The enthusiasm excited by the young stranger's first air never abated throughout the opera ("La Sonnambula"); and at the close of her task she was three times summoned before the curtain amid unanimous applause. So it was on Tuesday, when Mdlle. Marimon again appeared as Amina, this time to a crowded house. Again she was cheered to the echo after each act, and trebly recalled when the green curtain fell. It is clear, therefore, that the new comer has made a success with the public. But is that success deserved? We think so, as far as it has yet gone, and without being committed to any opinion about the future. Mdlle. Marimon has one of those voices termed sympathetic, because suggesting feeling by their very tones. Her range is great, and the facility with which she executes rapid bravura passages could scarcely be excelled by any artist now before the public. Moreover, she is capable of expressing the most opposite emotions with adequate force; and her acting is marked by an absence of affectation and by a quiet power which cannot fail to win respect. Mdlle. Marimon is equipped, therefore, with all the chief essentials of a popular artist; but whether her repertory be sufficiently large to satisfy the exigencies of such a position as that to which she aspires, time must show. Her list may prove of the shortest; but, however short, no caviller can say that her Amina is not an impersonation of rare and striking merit. Mdlle. Marimon was supported indifferently well by Signor Fancelli (Elvino), Signor Agnesi (Count), Mdlle. Bauermeister (Lisa), and Mdlle. Cruise (Teresa). The only other event at Drury Lane to be noticed is a performance of "Fidelio" last Saturday night, with Mdlle. Titien, Madame Simico, Signor Foli, and Signor Vizzani as principals. Comment upon the stage doings is unnecessary, so familiar are they; but a word must be said for the orchestra, which played the overtures Nos. 3 and 4, as well as the accompaniments, in a style of rare excellence. Probably no finer rendering of the great "Leonora" prelude has ever been witnessed, and the audience very naturally insisted upon an encore. "Fidelio" was repeated on Thursday night, and this evening Mdlle. Marimon plays in "La Sonnambula" for the third time.

Illness has much interfered with the doings at Covent Garden. "Fra Diavolo" was announced for Saturday last; but Madame Luca could not appear, and "Rigoletto" was substituted, with the ever-ready Mdlle. Sessi as Gilda. On Monday "Faust" was to have been given; but this time Signor Mario was indisposed, and again "Rigoletto" came to the rescue. On Tuesday "Don Giovanni" had a hearing, but without M. Faure, whose sickness compelled the substitution for him of Signor Cotogni. Here was, indeed, a series of misfortunes; but Mr. Gye has abundant resources to fall back upon in a case of emergency, for which reason he is less to be pitied than a manager not so well equipped. The performances of "Rigoletto" need not detain us, as they presented nothing new. Mdlle. Sessi's Gilda was dramatically as weak as ever; and the same remark applies to the Rigoletto of Signor Graziani, notwithstanding the demonstrations in which he is prone to indulge. Signor Mongini played the Duke last Saturday, and Signor Bettini on Monday; both being equal to the winning an encore for "La donna è mobile." We should add that a Madame Fabrini, late prima donna at Frankfort, made her début as Donna Anna on Tuesday. She is an artist, evidently, but has come here a little too late.

Concerts multiply as the season advances, and we can do little except give a few lines to the chief of them. The summer concerts at the Crystal Palace began, on Saturday last, with the usual performance of operatic airs, &c., by the artists of Drury-Lane Theatre. Mr. Mapleson's company supplies the vocalists for the first six entertainments, different arrangements having been made for the rest of the season. No doubt, large audiences are sure to be attracted, however slight may be the chance of hearing anything in such a place as the central transept.

A concert was given by the Philharmonic Society, in St. James's Hall, on Monday last, the principal features of which were Schumann's pianoforte concerto, played by Madame Svazrady, Handel's "Concierto grosso," Beethoven's symphony, No. 8, the overture to "Ruy Blas," and a concerto for double bass, written and performed with wonderful skill by Signor Bottesini. Mdlle. Regan and Herr Stockhausen contributed the vocal music of a programme more interesting than the average of those put forward by the society.

Also on Monday, but in the afternoon, Mr. Henry Leslie conducted a performance of Rossini's "Stabat Mater," and a miscellaneous selection, with Mdlle. Titien, Madame Albion, Mdlle. Ilma di Murska, Signor Nicolini, Mr. Bentham, Signor Agnesi, and Signor Foli as principal vocalists. Madame Albion did herself more justice than when she appeared a few months ago, and was much applauded. The "Stabat" was impressively rendered, and gave much satisfaction to a crowded house. Mr. Leslie proposes to carry out a series of these morning entertainments.

The New Philharmonic Society gave a concert, on Wednesday, in St. James's Hall; and yesterday afternoon Mr. Charles Halle's second pianoforte recital took place in the same room.

MR. ARNOLD, one of the magistrates at the Westminster Police Court, has declined to go into any prosecutions under the Lord's Day Act, of Charles II, pending Mr. P. A. Taylor's motion to repeal the statute.

CHRISTIANITY AND THE CRIMINAL CLASSES.

We have been requested to publish the following, which is being issued and circulated by the Howard Association, 5, Bishopsgate-street Without, London, E.C. We gladly comply with the request, the subject being one of special importance.

It has been remarked by a recent writer on crime in Great Britain, that the religious public, since the days of Mrs. Fry, has maintained a strict neutrality in the case of prisoners, or even policy of decided neglect. This feeling has been increased by the general experience of disappointment and imposture produced by the so-called "conversions" of the inmates of gaols, whose parrot-like repetition of texts, artful flattery of chaplains, and occasional tears of contrition have often been regarded as sufficient and reliable signs of reformation.

The disappointing results are but the natural fruits of the course too frequently adopted by the well-meaning persons who, with a one-sided zeal, have depreciated as "mere morality" those necessary tests and proofs of sincerity which are afforded by persevering honest labour, consideration for others, cleanliness, truthfulness, and temperance. But when the exhibition of a verbal profession is substituted and accepted for moral effort, the grossest hypocrite can readily outstrip the genuine penitent. By this practical disregard to Christ's own rule, "By their fruits ye shall know them," such sentimental applications of theological dogma have resulted in a general and melancholy failure, which, in turn, has occasioned in many quarters either a hopeless despair of success, or a feeling even among Christians that criminals only deserve, and should simply receive, a treatment purely penal, without aim or hope of reformation.

Very different, however, are the spirit and tone of Scriptural allusions in this direction. The parable of the prodigal son, the discourse with the woman taken in adultery, the meal "with publicans and sinners," the promise of Paradise to the dying thief, and the characteristic declaration that "the Son of Man is come to seek and to save that which was lost," all point to a policy towards offenders in which real reformation and practical moral fruits should be prominently expected and facilitated.

Bad as criminals are, they are often "more sinned against than sinning." Early neglect, gross ignorance, over-crowded dwellings, hereditary mental weakness, orphanage, and intemperate examples, have much to do with producing vice and crime—far more than any voluntary viciousness. The judicial statistics (official) show that 95 per cent of convicted persons are grossly ignorant, a large proportion being totally unable either to read or write; and also that less than 10 per cent belong to the professional, the trading, and the skilled mechanical classes combined. Hence it is almost entirely the ignorant, the unemployed, and the unskilled, or, in other words, the "unfortunate" classes who fill our gaols.

More particularly the consideration that in many, if not all, of the outcasts of society there remains at least some spark of Divine origin, some germ of spirit that may or might be developed into immortal godliness, suggests a course of procedure not only widely removed from the sentimentality which contents itself with eliciting questionable or sanctimonious declarations of humility and of spurious, because unfruitful, "faith," but also as diverse from an exaggerated reliance on the efficacy of the crank and plank bed, the lash and the gallows. From the above point of view, too, the words are still partially applicable—in many instances, at least—"I was in prison"—that is, many criminals have glimmerings, not wholly quenched, of Christ's spirit within them which might be everlastingly revived.

Christianity and common-sense will further be found opposed to the cynical or selfish objection (raised even by clerical wits such as Sydney Smith, or by more modern "philosophers") that it is unfair to ignorant or unemployed honest persons to educate and teach trades to criminals. Whatever such may think, both Christianity and common-sense plainly teach that "the criminal should be reformed, and that society should be effectually protected from further outrage by him." The prodigal son must be reclaimed to his Father, even if his virtuous, though somewhat selfish, brother manifests, as of old, more or less jealousy.

It is, however, no sentimental or non-deterring mercy to the social offender that Christianity indicates. The indolent and the vicious are not likely to seek imprisonment where real and continuous hard labour is enforced, even though that labour be, as it ought to be, peculiarly profitable, and adapted to qualify for a livelihood on discharge. If a skilled trade, so much the better. Much more sentimental and fictitious as to its deterrent effect is the present prevalent system, under which about 75 per cent of English prisoners are committed to gaol over and over again, ten, twenty, fifty, one hundred, and occasionally 200 times in succession, from periods of from seven to twenty-eight days only. They are thus prison-hardened and confirmed in crime. It is now a sine qua non of further progress in British criminal treatment that the wretched system shall be abandoned.

Owing in great degree, it may be fairly admitted, to the efforts of the Howard Association, the attention of prison governors and magistrates has been widely awakened to the importance of more attention to reformatory industry. The next step needed is that of sentences long enough to form these good habits. The governor of a county gaol, writing to the association respecting the large number of seven-day sentences, remarks, "It is not possible to get a man to break stones properly in seven days." Then the Prison Act of 1865 also unduly restricts prison authorities to the use of so-called "penal" labour (of an unremunerative nature)—as the treadwheel, crank, mat-making, &c.—whereby really useful occupation is still further precluded. It is of importance that a variety of trades should be taught. This is being attempted in some prisons (especially in Durham and York Castle). But it is unfair to the honest mat-makers (a trade employing comparatively few hands) to place a large proportion of prisoners at that one occupation, in itself a poor one for their future prospects.

It is evident that there can be no undue competition of prison labour when rightly proportioned. For the millions of outsiders are an overwhelming majority.

To refuse to teach the prisoners any trade is to perpetuate crime and to injure the honest ratepayer. It is not only robbing "Peter to pay Paul," but is aiding the devil's work of "finding mischief still for idle hands to do. Under the current system a vicious and idle criminal breaks into an Englishman's house, destroying much property, perhaps knocking down or wounding the owner, and carrying off as many valuables as he can remove. What ensues? If convicted, he is sentenced (not to make any restitution or even maintain himself in gaol), but to be supported for a longer or shorter period almost totally at the further expense of the injured ratepayer, and other honest men. The average net cost, to these, of every prisoner in England, after deducting the value of all work done in gaol, is still £29 per annum, or more than 11s. per week. It was recently £34.

Religion and common-sense call for a much better mode of treatment—a mode both merciful and deterrent to the offender and just to the injured persons and the community. Under the Mosaic dispensation it was again and again enacted concerning the thief, "He shall make restitution unto the owner thereof," Exodus xx, &c. Under the Christian dispensation it is written, "Let him that stole steal no more, but rather let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good" (Ephesians iv). And again, "If any would not work, neither should he eat" (2 Thess. iv). That is to say, the amount of food, clothing, and aid on discharge shall be strictly conditional on and proportionate to their industrial exertions in gaol—a plan which has already been successfully adopted in certain foreign prisons.

ST. GEORGE'S HOSPITAL.

A PUBLIC meeting in aid of the funds of this hospital was held at Willis's Rooms on Wednesday. The Marquis of Westminster presided, and there were also present the Marchioness of Westminster, the Duke of Argyll, the Earl of Shaftesbury, Earl Cadogan, the Earl of Bessborough, Lord Penrhyn, Baron Alfred de Rothschild, Sir John Harrington, Admiral Sir Thomas Cochrane, Sir Charles

Stirling, the Hon. Henry Walpole and Mrs. Walpole, and a large number of other ladies and gentlemen.

The Marquis of Westminster, in referring to the financial position of the hospital, said that it was found, a few years ago, that the ordinary funds of the institution were not sufficient to meet the expenses, and that in consequence the stock belonging to the hospital had been gradually eaten into and absorbed. In 1868 it was found that there was extraordinary expenditure to be met on account of buildings and other things, and that it would be necessary to take extraordinary measures to meet that outlay. Accordingly, in 1869, a public meeting was held in Willis's Rooms, when the Duke of Devonshire presided, and when the claims of gentlemen who were present. The result of the meeting was an increase of the subscriptions to the extent of some £2000 a year, whilst the donations for the year amounted to £10,000. Another meeting of a similar character was held last year, when the Prince of Wales presided, and when the subscriptions exceeded those of 1869 by £166, whilst the donations for the year amounted to £9780. The receipts still fell short of the expenditure by a sum of about £5000, and he trusted the result of the present meeting would do much towards making up that deficit.

The Earl of Shaftesbury moved the first resolution in these terms:—"That, notwithstanding the efforts recently made to increase the revenue of St. George's Hospital, the annual expenditure remains still considerably in excess of the income, and it is most desirable that further efforts be made to remedy this state of affairs." Referring to the inroads that had been made upon the funded property of the hospital in order to meet the increased expenditure, and replying to the objections of those who were of opinion that hospitals ought not to have any funded property, his Lordship contended that in a vast number of cases these institutions must inevitably collapse unless they had reserve funds to appeal to on occasions of great emergency (Hear, hear). With respect to the subscriptions to hospitals, it was a disgrace to modern philanthropy and to the character of England that so little was done in that way among our wealthier classes, and especially as regarded London, which, in proportion to its size and wealth, provided less hospital accommodation than any large city in Europe.

Lord Penrhyn seconded the resolution, and, in urging the claims of St. George's Hospital to public support, said he believed that the expenditure of that institution was less proportionately than that of any other hospital in London, with one exception.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

The Duke of Argyll moved the second resolution—namely, "That this meeting do pledge itself to make known, as far as lies in its power, the necessity for increasing the support given to St. George's Hospital, whether by subscriptions, donations, or bequests." The noble Duke pointed out that the total expenditure of the hospital was under £20,000 a year, without taking into consideration the extraordinary expenditure incurred in the building of new wards and for other purposes during the last two years; and that more than 4000 patients passed through the hospital in the course of the year, exclusive of the large number of outdoor patients; the working cost of the institution being less than £5 per head of the indoor patients—a very small cost indeed, considering the immense benefit which that institution conferred upon the poor. With regard to the subscriptions to the funds of the hospital, it was desirable that there should be a large number of fixed annual subscriptions. These had been increasing, but they were still inadequate, and were very small considering the enormous wealth of that part of the metropolis where the hospital was situated.

Earl Cadogan seconded the resolution, mentioning that he had taken an active part in the affairs of this charity for twenty years, and bearing testimony to the earnest desire of all with whom he had been in any way associated in the management of the institution to do the best they could to promote the object for which it existed.

The resolution was carried by acclamation.

On the motion of Baron Alfred de Rothschild, seconded by Rev. Prebendary Stooks, a vote of thanks was awarded to the Marquis of Westminster for presiding, and the proceedings terminated.

Subscriptions to a considerable amount were received at the door.

THE PROPOSED INCLOSURE OF THE THAMES EMBANKMENT.

ON Tuesday a public meeting, convened by the High Bailiff of Westminster, in accordance with a requisition from the ratepayers, was held at St. James's Hall, for the purpose of expressing an opinion with regard to the proposed inclosure of a portion of the land abutting upon the Thames Embankment. Mr. W. J. Farrar, the High Bailiff, presided; and amongst those present upon the platform were Lord G. Hamilton, M.P.; Mr. G. Cubitt, M.P.; Mr. W. H. Smith, M.P.; M.P.; Mr. Harvey Lewis, M.P.; Sir R. Baggallay, M.P.; Colonel Knox, M.P.; and the Hon. F. Scott.

The chairman, after having briefly expressed gratification that the ratepayers had availed themselves of the right and privilege of making their opinions known to the Legislature, explained the object of the meeting, and went at some length into the history of the Thames Embankment. He urged that the land had been reclaimed by the money of the ratepayers of London, and pointed to the fact that £24,000 had been paid to the conservators of the Thames, of which £10,000 had been paid to the Crown for a portion of the foreshore in front of the Savoy; notwithstanding which the Crown claimed all the land reclaimed which was not actually used for the roadway; and it was against that which they now protested. It was worthy of notice that, whilst the Crown demanded this, some private individuals before whose property the Embankment ran made it a stipulation, much to their credit, that the reclaimed land should be devoted to public recreation.

Lord George Hamilton, M.P., moved—"That justice to the ratepayers of London, who have expended nearly £2,000,000 upon the Thames Embankment, demands that their wishes should be consulted in dealing with the land reclaimed."

Mr. James Beal seconded the motion, remarking that they were met for the purpose of upholding the Metropolitan Board of Works and supporting Mr. W. H. Smith in his motion upon this subject.

The resolution having been unanimously adopted, Mr. Harvey Lewis, M.P., moved—"That, since it was deemed right to secure by the Thames Embankment Act that the reclaimed land abutting on ancient shore belonging to private persons should be devoted to public health, recreation, and amusement, there is still stronger reason for devoting the reclaimed land abutting on ancient shore belonging to the Crown to the same purposes; and, further, that, since the same Act (Thames Embankment Act, 1862) directs that no buildings, except those of a purely ornamental character, such as public monuments, &c., be erected on reclaimed lands abutting on ancient shore belonging to private persons, it is only just that no buildings, except those of a like purely ornamental character, be erected on lands reclaimed abutting on ancient shore belonging to the Crown."

Colonel Knox, M.P., seconded the motion, and it was carried. The meeting was also addressed by Sir R. Baggallay, M.P.; Messrs. W. Taylor, J. Irving Courtney, and T. D. Berry; and resolutions to the following effect were adopted:—"That the lands reclaimed and now allotted to lessees of the Crown for terms corresponding to their respective leases ought, at the expiration of the leases, to be devoted to purposes of public recreation. That a petition should be presented to the House of Commons praying it to take such measures as would prevent the appropriation of any part of the reclaimed land to purposes other than those of public recreation."

THE TICHBORNE TRIAL.

THE trial of this cause, which is to determine the ownership of the Tichborne estates, was to have commenced in the Court of Common Pleas on Wednesday; but, in consequence of a difficulty in mustering a jury, had to be postponed. As for some time past the world has heard little of the affair beyond a few indistinct rumours and floating on dits, we propose to give such a general outline of what are reported to be the facts as may enable our readers to comprehend the issues involved, and to follow from day to day the action of the drama.

The plaintiff claims to be the eldest son of Sir James Francis Tichborne, the former possessor of the estates to which he asserts his title, and to be, in virtue of that relationship, entitled to succeed to the baronetcy and to the temporalities which have hitherto been enjoyed therewith. He says that he is that eldest son of Sir James Francis, who was undoubtedly born at Paris on Jan. 5, 1829, and who resided in the French capital till 1844, when he came over to this country to complete his education. In 1849 the son of the late Baronet received his commission as Lieutenant in the 6th Dragoon Guards. It is not denied that he remained in that regiment until early in 1853, and then left England with the intention of travelling for some years in distant parts. Here the romance and mystery of the story begin. The plaintiff states that he went to South America, and, after a few months of somewhat purposeless and desultory wandering upon that continent, found himself at Rio de Janeiro, in April, 1854. The Bella, a Liverpool ship, was then in port loading for New York, and in that ship he took his passage, being, as he believes, the only passenger on board. Four days after leaving Rio the Bella sprang a leak; and, though the crew did all they could in the way of baling and pumping, the vessel speedily went down. For three days and three nights the claimant and those who were in the same boat with him suffered privations with which those who remember their schoolboy reading of "Shipwrecks and Disasters at Sea" will be sufficiently familiar; but on the fourth day they were fortunately picked up by a vessel bound for Australia, whence they landed at Melbourne about the end of July, 1854. The gold fever was then at its height, and ships by the dozen were lying in the harbour unable to start on their return voyage for want of hands to navigate them. One result of this state of affairs is said to have been that the heir to the baronetcy stayed for some time in Melbourne till by mere chance he met a colonist in extensive business as a stockkeeper. As this person happened to want a man who could ride well, he thought the Lieutenant of Dragoons would exactly suit him, and the latter was so pleased at the prospect of residence at a sheep-farming station, where there was plenty of hunting and shooting, that he closed with the proposal offhand. He accepted the proffered employment, took a fictitious name (Thomas Castro), and went several hundred miles up the country, moving from station to station, and finally settling down at Wagga Wagga for four years, during which time, in January, 1865, he married, still retaining his assumed name, and never communicating with the friends he had left behind him. The late Baronet having died in 1862, advertisements for the lost heir were inserted in different newspapers, and inquiries were made through "Missing Friends Office" in Australia, which are stated to have at length been successful in getting to the knowledge of the soi-disant Thomas Castro. In January, 1866, he wrote to the late Lady Tichborne, informing her of his whereabouts, and asking her to remit money enough to enable him to return to England. The request was complied with. A draft for £400 was sent out, but before it could reach its destination its intended recipient had started for England with his wife and child, having been provided with the needful by the son of an old neighbour who had accidentally heard of their story. They left the Antipodes in September, travelled via Panama to New York, and thence to England, arriving at the Victoria Docks on Christmas Day, 1866.

Of course, if this statement of facts will stand judicial tests, the claimant's case is made out, and the last Baronet of Tichborne will have his own again. The trustees appointed by the will of the late Sir James Francis Tichborne are, however, unsatisfied as to the identity of the applicant, and are said to be prepared to maintain that he is not a member of the Tichborne family at all. Every one must feel that these gentlemen are in a very difficult position, and that they are perfectly justified in insisting upon strict proof of a fact which involves the right to large estates in which they have no personal interest, but with which they will part at their peril. The plaintiff is said to have a formidable array of testimony to prove that he is the real Simon Pure. As soon as he reached England he put himself in communication with the defendants, and their advisers. Having seen them he went to Paris, where Lady Tichborne was then residing. By her he was at once recognised as her first-born son, and with her he remained ten days. They parted on the most affectionate terms, and as the prosecution of his suit required his residence in England, her Ladyship broke up her establishment at Paris and came over here to reside with him. Since the pending litigation began this lady has died, and the plaintiff will, therefore, lose the advantage of her personal appearance in court; but she is understood to have made a deposition which speaks most strongly in his favour, and which will be greatly relied upon by his counsel. A small army of witnesses— it is said, something like a couple of hundred—are to be called in order to establish or destroy the theory which the plaintiff sets up, and voluminous depositions, made in America and Australia before commissioners specially instructed to take evidence in the case, will be read, so that if the truth is to be ascertained by dint of abundant materials upon which to form a decisive judgment, we may hope that the trial begun this week will accomplish that result. Everything that laborious research, careful inquiry, and lavish expense can do in the way of getting up the evidence has been done already, and we have only to glance at the names of the leading counsel who have been retained on each side to feel assured that the statements advanced will be tested by the utmost legal acumen and

marshalled with the greatest forensic skill. We have carefully guarded ourselves from expressing any opinion as to the issue of the contest, and have desired only to furnish our readers with such particulars as will enable them to estimate the bearing of each witness's testimony upon the point which the jury will have to determine, and to form their own conclusions as to the correctness of any verdict which may be pronounced.

LONDON POLICE COURTS.

AN AWKWARD SCRAPE.—At Southwark, on Wednesday, William Bowie, twenty-nine, a stonemason, employed at the new General Post Office, was placed at the bar for final examination, charged with being found concealed in a bed in the house of Mr. Daniels, printer, 7, Friar-street, Blackfriars-road, with intent to commit a felony. It appeared from the evidence of Mrs. Daniels that, last Saturday night, a little before twelve o'clock, she went to bed, having previously fastened up the lower part of the house, but leaving the street-door on the latch for her husband. About two o'clock in the morning she felt someone touching her, and, believing it was her husband, she took no notice of it. She, however, smelt burning paper, and got out of bed to examine the house. The gas was all safe; but on returning to the bed-room she saw some paper near the bed partially consumed. She then took hold of the man in the bed, and to her horror found it was not her husband. She screamed out as loud as she could, when one of her lodgers came down and called in the police. Her husband, who had fallen asleep over his book, also came up and gave the prisoner into custody. On the prisoner being searched, a latch key was found on him which fitted the door. He was dressed, and his hat was lying on the floor. Mr. Thomas, a professional athlete, said he and his wife lodged in the upper part of the house, and he was aroused by Mrs. Daniels screaming out, "Here's a man in my bed!" He ran down stairs and pulled the prisoner out of bed, and then called Mr. Daniels up stairs, and he fetched a constable and gave the prisoner into custody. Police-Constable 209 M said that about three o'clock on Sunday morning he was on duty in Friar-street, and he was called into the prosecutor's house, when the prisoner was given into his custody. He was under the influence of liquor, and did not seem to know what he was about. He was stupid, and could not be made to understand what was said to him. Witness searched him, and found a latch key on him which fitted prosecutor's street door. In answer to the charge, the prisoner said he had been drinking all day Saturday, and when he left home his wife handed him the latch key produced, but he had no idea how he got into the prosecutor's house. The magistrate said it was strange a man living in Crozier-street, Lambeth, nearly two miles off, should enter a house under the circumstances. He asked if the prosecutor believed he came there for a felonious purpose. Mr. Daniels replied that he did not. He had made inquiries about the prisoner, and found him to be a respectable working man. He believed the prisoner was in the habit of visiting some one in the same street, and had mistaken the house in his drunken state. The magistrate said it was strange a man living in Crozier-street, Lambeth, nearly two miles off, should enter a house under the circumstances. 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